



ANTI-SLAVERY REPORTER.

UNDER THE SANCTION OF

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

Vol. 21, No. 9.

AUGUST, 1879.

{ Price 5s. per Annum.
{ Gratis to Subscribers.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
Slavery in Cuba	201	Thirty-First Anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery by France	223
Proposed Introduction of Soldiers into the Sugar Plantations in Cuba	208	Alleged Kidnapping of Coolies in the Straits Settlements	224
Important Decision of the King of Spain respecting Slavery in Cuba	208	Deplorable Condition of Indian Coolies in French Guiana	225
Slavery in Cyprus	209	Proposed Immigration of Chinese Coolies into Brazil	226
African Exploration	211	Alleged Fraud upon Coolies in Jamaica	226
Universities' Mission to Central Africa.	215	The Slave-Trade in the Portuguese Settlements in Africa	227
Liberia	215	Proposed Ship Canal through the Isthmus of Panama	227
Shooting Zulus in South Africa	216	Obituary :—William Lloyd Garrison—The late J. M. Phillippo, of Jamaica—The late Mr. George Fife Angas—The late Edward Backhouse — Death of Mr. Keith Johnston	229—232
Southern Abyssinia	216	Secretary	232
Abolition of the Slave-Trade by the King of Shoa	217	Subscriptions and Donations	232
Geographical Notes	219		
Slavery and the Slave-Trade in the Red Sea	219		
Proposed Railway from Algeria to the Niger	220		
Present Aspect of Affairs in Eastern Africa	221		
North-West Africa	223		

SLAVERY IN CUBA.

THE Society has long felt that, with the cessation of hostilities in Cuba, Spain has no longer any excuse for the non-fulfilment of her treaty obligations in regard to the enfranchisement of the slaves in that island; more especially since she has already so successfully accomplished the great work in Porto Rico.

The assistance of Lord Selborne was, therefore, invoked on behalf of the enslaved Africans in Cuba, and we have now the pleasure to reprint the masterly and exhaustive address, in which his Lordship called upon Her Majesty's Government to take the necessary steps to induce Spain to perform the work to which she has so long been pledged.

We also give the replies of Lord Salisbury and the Earl of Beaconsfield, and the short but energetic speech in support of the motion made by Earl Granville. We are glad to report that the papers moved for have been promised by the Government, and we call the attention of our readers to the tele-

graphic notices from Madrid, showing how this important debate in the House of Lords* has been received in Spain.

Spain may resent as she pleases any attempt made by England to remind her of her duties towards the three hundred thousand Africans *now held by her in Cuba in illegal bondage*, out she cannot long afford to oppose herself to the irresistible current of the public opinion of united Christendom, nor will she be able much longer to maintain her unenviable position of being the only civilized power in Europe that still upholds the barbarous and detestable institution of slavery.

The extract from the last report of our Consul-General in Cuba upon the labour question in that island, which we subjoin, is conclusive in showing that there is small prospect of continued peace and prosperity in Cuba whilst slavery exists.

* This Debate, in pamphlet form, may be had at the Society's Offices, 27, New Broad Street, price 6d.

PRESENT STATE OF THE LABOUR QUESTION
IN CUBA.

"The question of labour has been one of great moment of late, as the freeing of the insurgent blacks by the Treaty of the Yajon has given rise to a desire for independence among the entire slave population of the country, which, though it happily has not yet, in spite of the grave apprehensions entertained in the capital towards the end of December last, resulted in any serious disturbances, has, nevertheless, considerably embarrassed the working of many of the plantations in this neighbourhood. Few even of the largest slave-holders blind themselves now to the fact that the end of slavery as an institution is close at hand, and they have, accordingly, been straining every nerve to replace it by a system of contracted labour, which, while speciously described as one of free immigration, practically leaves little of freedom to the immigrant but the name. The worst feature of this is the fact that every scheme hitherto suggested or attempted to bring immigrants to Cuba (including Spaniards from Galicia and the Canary Islands, Chinamen from Asia, Madrasees and other British Asiatic subjects from the other West Indian Islands, as well as British, French, and Danish subjects, white and black, from the same places) has fixed the rate of wages to be paid the immigrant in the country where he was engaged, and contained a clause permitting the transfer of the contract; thereby opening a field to every adventurer to trade on the ignorance of the labourer, by making him bind himself for a long period at wages which, after deducting all expenses of travelling, &c., are far below the market rates, and to afterwards sell the contract (or, otherwise speaking, the man himself) at a price which must perforce come out of the excess of the real value of his labour over what he is actually to receive. The only apparent way to obviate such an abuse, and at the same time to meet the increasing demand for labour, is for the Government, to immediately check private enterprise in the matter, and in accord with the planters, the class that has most need of labour, to inaugurate a system of immigration by which the immigrant may be free to engage himself, on arrival, to whoever he wishes, and at the best wages he can get; the employer guaranteeing a monthly de-

duction from his wages, to be fixed by law, until the ultimate payment to the immigration committee of the expenses incurred in bringing him from his own country. In this way the island would gain by the re-establishment of confidence among the inhabitants of over-populated countries which the high wages paid here would infallibly attract, while the only people who would suffer would be the speculators in the traffic, who, from the short-sightedness of the planters are the only ones who have profited, at the same time that they have discredited every scheme of immigration that has been hitherto attempted."—*Report by Vice-Consul Carden on the Trade and Commerce of Havana, for the year 1878.*

IMPORTANT DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF
LORDS.

Monday, the 21st of July, 1879.

Lord SELBORNE rose, pursuant to notice, to call attention to the question of slavery in Cuba; and to move for copies of all despatches and papers containing any communications on that subject which have passed between Her Majesty's Government or Her Majesty's Minister at Madrid and the Spanish Government, and which have not already been laid before Parliament.

His Lordship said:—It may be in the recollection of those of your lordships who take an interest in the subject of slavery, that on the 21st of March last, my noble friend Lord Granville asked the noble Marquis the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether Her Majesty's Government were taking any steps with a view to obtain the fulfilment of the assurances which had been given by the Government of Spain as to the total abolition of slavery in the Spanish possessions. My noble friend put no undue pressure upon the Government: he would have been content if he had only learned that something was really being done. But the noble marquis, after referring to the change which had then lately taken place in the Spanish Ministry, said that it must be remembered that the matter was one entirely of internal regulation, and that but for the promise which the Spanish Government had volunteered we should have no right to mention the subject. That answer occasioned both disappointment and surprise—disappointment, because it was very different in its tone

from a letter received less than a year before from the Foreign Office by the Anti-Slavery Society in reply to a Memorial which it had presented; surprise, because it was impossible to reconcile it either with the tenor of the language held by the predecessors of the present Secretary of State, or with the real facts on which the right of this country to remonstrate with Spain rested. I can only suppose that the noble marquis had been too much occupied with the affairs of Turkey and other countries which are still the strongholds of slavery on the shores of the Mediterranean, to be able to refresh his memory as to what had previously occurred on this subject. That answer makes it necessary for me to remind your lordships that the promises of Spain were not volunteered in such a sense as to make them the sole foundation of our right to remonstrate. We have two treaties with Spain relating to this question, the one entered into in 1817, and the other in 1835. By the treaty of 1817, in consideration of a sum of £400,000 then paid by this country, Spain entered into a positive and absolute engagement totally to abolish the slave-trade throughout her dominions from the end of the year 1820. By the treaty of 1835, that engagement was solemnly renewed: the slave-trade was declared, so far as Spain was concerned, to be wholly abolished and illegal; and each of the contracting States then bound itself to co-operate with the other to suppress it, and Spain entered into a very explicit and positive engagement with us to give absolute freedom to all those negroes who might be taken out of vessels which were found carrying on the trade; to ensure to those negroes good treatment in every way; and likewise to communicate information to us on the subject. In what manner were those engagements fulfilled? They did not, it is true, bind Spain to abolish within her dominions the institution of slavery; but they bound her not to add by any means resulting from the slave-trade to the number of the unhappy beings who were already subject to it. It appears from the returns made from time to time by the British Consul-General and Commissioners in Cuba, and laid before Parliament, that in the twenty years between 1822 and 1842 no fewer than 200,621 slaves were introduced into Cuba by ships sailing from and re-

turning to Spanish ports. I have not been able to ascertain the exact numbers for the next sixteen years; but during that interval, instead of the trade-diminishing it largely increased; and in the five years from 1858 to 1862 no fewer than 100,560 were likewise imported into Cuba against the stipulations of the treaties. The total number imported during the forty-two years from 1820 to 1863 could not have been under 500,000. On the 8th of June, 1860, Lord John Russell, speaking in the House of Commons, said,—“I believe from 30,000 to 40,000 slaves are annually brought into that island from Africa, and it is perfectly true that this trade is carried on in contempt and violation of treaties between this country and Spain.” In a despatch of September 30th, 1860, Consul-General Crawford estimated that the total number of slaves in Cuba was then 400,000, the excess of deaths over births being eight per cent. per annum. Those figures substantially justify his conclusion, in a despatch of March 23rd, 1876, that every able-bodied African then in Cuba under fifty-five years of age must have been imported clandestinely, and was legally entitled to his freedom at once. Every, or almost every, able-bodied negro in Cuba under fifty-five years of age, was in 1876 a living monument of the breaches of treaty committed by Spain, and we had a clear treaty right to remonstrate against the retention in slavery of nearly the whole of the slave population of Cuba at that time. With regard to the negroes who had been intercepted by the Spanish cruisers in slave-trading vessels, called in the language of the country *Emancipados*, and whom the Spanish Government was bound by the treaty of 1835 to restore to perfect freedom, as well as to insure them the best possible treatment, Consul-General Crawford, in his report of August 28th, 1863, said:—

“The *Emancipado* is the most wretched of human beings, for he is neither more nor less than a Government slave; and he is condemned to drag out a life of hopeless misery, being constantly reassigned from one master to another at the caprice of the authorities, and being subjected to all the hardest labour and discipline of the slave without any adequate remuneration, and without even the privilege which is accorded to the slave of purchasing his own freedom.

The treatment which these poor creatures receive at the hands of their masters is, generally speaking, of the very worst kind. They are cheated out of their wages, and are subjected to every species of punishment. They are sold, or rather they are transferred from one master to another, for a consideration generally amounting to from 170 dols. to 240 dols.; and terrible abuses are committed with the friendless Emancipado, such as reporting him dead, whereas he has been substituted for a defunct slave."

Thus, both with respect to the continuance of the slave-trade and to the treatment of those who were ostensibly rescued from slavery, the Spanish Government for a long course of years systematically disregarded its direct treaty engagements. A Convention for better securing the performance of the treaties was proposed by this country in 1840, and another in 1850, but both were rejected by Spain. These things did not take place without continual remonstrances by the predecessors in office of the noble marquis, who certainly did not take the view that the subject was one which, except by some voluntary concession of the Spanish Government, we were not entitled to mention to them. I will mention a few of the instances, which are scattered over the Slave-Trade Papers of many years. In 1841 Lord Palmerston urged the Spanish Government "to take steps for restoring to freedom all those negroes who have been introduced into Cuba as slaves in violation of the laws of Spain, and who, therefore, not being the legal property of any man, are *ipso facto* free by the law of the country itself." In June, 1870, Lord Clarendon sent to Mr. Layard, for communication to the Spanish Government, a Memorial which he had received from the Anti-Slavery Society, with his answer, in which he stated that "It was impossible not to acknowledge that the slaves introduced into Cuba in violation both of the Spanish laws and of the international obligations of Spain towards this country were properly entitled to their freedom;" and Mr. Layard was then instructed to express a hope that the question would be dealt with in a "complete and satisfactory manner." It was in that year that those promises were made to this country by Spain, which the noble marquis opposite, in March last, declared to have been volunteered. While these promises were still

recent, the language of my noble friend behind me, who asked the question in March last, was very explicit as to the right of this country, founded upon treaty engagements, to be heard upon this subject. In 1871 Mr. Layard wrote that Senor Martos had admitted to him that "pledges had been given to Her Majesty's Government;" to which he had replied that "Her Majesty's Government, after the assurances given them, would have just grounds for remonstrance if something were not done to prove the intention of the Spanish Government to carry out those measures for the eventual total abolition of slavery which they had publicly pledged themselves, not only to Spain, but to Europe and the United States, to adopt." On the 24th of November, 1871, my noble friend wrote to Mr. Layard:—"Her Majesty's Government do not feel justified in maintaining any longer the silence and reserve which they have hitherto observed upon a question in which they have a treaty right to interfere;" referring, at that time, more especially to the case of the Emancipados. In December of the same year he told the Spanish Ambassador, that "with us it was not a question of merely making a representation on a matter which we had at heart, but was one also of insisting on the execution of positive treaty engagements." If the noble marquis opposite had remembered the terms of those communications when he answered the question addressed to him on the 21st of March last, he would hardly have replied that it was a matter entirely of internal regulation, and that but for the promises volunteered we should have no right to mention the subject. I wish the House now to consider what has been done to make reparation for the long-continued breach of treaty engagements in this matter, and also what steps have been taken to fulfil those promises which were really not volunteered, but resulted from a frank recognition by the Spanish Government of our right to be heard upon this subject. The facts are these:—The slave-trade went on constantly increasing till about 1862, but afterwards diminished: and within a few years of that time, before the commencement of the Cuban insurrection in 1869, it had come entirely to an end. That, no doubt, was a great gain: but those who had, down to that time, been illegally reduced into servi-

tude, were still deprived of their freedom. During the insurrection the insurgents proclaimed a total and immediate abolition of slavery wherever their power extended, and the question became complicated with the difficulties arising out of that insurrection. In 1870 a declaration was made in the Cortes that the Spanish Government had at last determined to put an end to slavery. General Prim requested the British Minister at Madrid to communicate that declaration to Her Majesty's Government, with an assurance of their sincere intention to carry it into effect. In the same summer a law was proposed by Senor Moret, and passed the Cortes, upon the subject; but it was very far from carrying out the declaration; it only provided for the liberation of slave children born subsequent to the promulgation of the law after they should have undergone a period of forced service, absolutely undistinguishable from slavery, till they were eighteen years of age, and very little better till they were twenty-two; and for the emancipation of slaves above sixty years of age: it also declared that the Emancipados should be put into full possession of the rights of freemen; but it left the execution of that provision to Local Boards. Mr. Layard was, however, requested to communicate assurances that this measure would be followed by others providing for the complete abolition of slavery. Six years afterwards Mr. Consul Crawford said that the practical working of that Act would be "to maintain slavery, not for twenty-two years, as some persons suppose, but for an indefinite period. In fact," he continued, "it is the *emancipado* system revived on a sweeping scale. The traffic in *emancipados* still continues." Now, so far as Cuba is concerned, this is the last step that has been taken. Nothing has been done for Cuba in the nine years since the passing of that most imperfect law. A debate occurred upon the subject in the House of Commons in 1872, and an Address to the Crown was proposed; but as the answer given by the Government of that day justified the expectation that they would lose no favourable opportunity of moving in the matter, a division was not then taken. Since that time, I am happy to say, one step has been taken by Spain in the right direction, though not in Cuba. The slaves in Porto

Rico were emancipated in March, 1873. I mention this with great satisfaction, as it shows that there are statesmen in Spain who are perfectly sincere in their desire to fulfil the promises which have been made. I have every reason to believe that this great step has been successful, and is found to have inflicted no practical injury upon the colony. (Hear, hear.) The obstacles which existed in Cuba during the time of the insurrection have been removed long enough to entitle us to ask that no more time should be lost in the complete accomplishment, there also, of this great object. (Hear, hear.) It is now considerably more than a year since the insurrection has been suppressed, and nine years since the original assurances were given by General Prim and Senor Moret. I can assure your lordships that it is from no want of friendly feeling towards Spain that I now bring this question forward; on the contrary, I am fully convinced that those who desire to persuade Her Majesty's Government to bestir themselves in this matter are among the best friends of Spain. There is not one of your lordships, I am sure, who does not desire that we should be on the best terms with Spain, who has not felt sympathy with her in the manifold troubles and difficulties through which she has passed, who does not rejoice in the happier prospects which seem to be now before her, or who would not be inclined to condone the great forbearance which the British Government has manifested. I have a right to call it forbearance; remembering, as all your lordships must remember, the very different course taken by this country with Brazil,—a nation bound to us on the subject of slavery by obligations not more stringent than those of Spain: remembering, also, what the result of the course so taken with Brazil has been. I cannot, however, and I do not, regret, that our attitude towards Spain has been uniformly friendly, forbearing, and considerate. But for the sake of Spain herself, and for the credit of this country, there ought to be some limit to inactivity and silence. (Hear.) The influence of the British Government is very great; it cannot be used in a better cause. Cuba is now in a state of comparative tranquillity; but it is impossible to expect that the present state of things in that island can long continue undisturbed, if the promises so solemnly

given for the complete restoration of its coloured population to that freedom which is really their right should very much longer remain unfulfilled. The true interest of Spain, in Cuba itself, requires the fulfilment of those promises. And not her interest only, but her honour. It is surely for the honour of Spain not to be the last nation to fulfil the great work of emancipation. One by one other countries have put down first the slave-trade and then slavery; first England, then the United States, then Portugal. Spain is the only civilized nation now left in Europe (for Turkey is essentially an Oriental power) which has not wiped off from her escutcheon that foul stain. It is now for her, I trust at a time not far distant, to put the finishing stroke to this great work, and to crown, by the emancipation of the negro population in Cuba, this great series of the triumphs of liberty. (Hear, hear.)

The Marquis of SALISBURY said that he thought there would be no difficulty in complying with the desire of his noble friend that papers and despatches on the subject should be laid on the table of the House. When his noble friend saw them, he would be able to form a clearer and more competent judgment of the position of the Government. In the course of his speech he referred to the action taken by Her Majesty's Government in the case of Brazil—a reference that appeared to him to be singularly opportune, as it had reminded the House that in dealing with engagements concerning the internal government of a country, whatever might be their character or binding force, it was always necessary to ask oneself which of two lines of conduct it was intended to pursue. There was, perhaps, an inconvenience resulting from our national habit of discussing foreign affairs in the open forum of debate; but we should never come to a clear idea of our policy unless we tried to distinguish between those matters which we could push to the *ultima ratio* and those in which we should never contemplate the employment of any but moral force. His noble friend would forgive him for saying that he did not think it his business in the present case to furnish an interpretation of the treaty; his noble friend was, of course, at liberty to give any interpretation of it that he pleased; but, for his own part, he must decline to do so, as in

any interpretation given in that place, and which it would not be open to him to repudiate, he might possibly make use of some inaccurate word or phrase that might afterwards be held to bind the Government. He would, therefore, avoid the snare of speaking too distinctly of the precise character of the obligations that bound us in this matter. Whatever their extent might be, it appeared clear that it was only by moral influence that they could be enforced. He would ask his noble friend to place himself in the position of a Spanish statesman before he determined the precise vigour or rapidity with which the English Government ought to give effect to those obligations. There was no matter on which all nations were so sensitive, and especially nations ruled by popular assemblies, as interference in their internal affairs, and no action of diplomacy so difficult as to urge on a nation so ruled a change in its internal laws. The slightest appearance of concession was at once seized upon by an Opposition as a proof of truckling to foreigners; and in Spain, as in all countries, there was an Opposition which, though it was not an invariable characteristic of Oppositions, was singularly jealous of the honour of the country. There was no charge more likely to be fatal to a Government and against which it provided with greater care, than that of submitting its internal legislation to the importunate advice of any foreign critic, or even ally. Those considerations had to be borne in mind by any one who formed his opinion of the Spanish and British Governments. He would venture to read an extract from a recent speech of General Martinez Campos, which would show the precise attitude of Spain:—

“The Government must see that the scales are equally weighted, must take into account the social problem, must declare at once that it never had the intention of immediately emancipating the slaves. It is the intention of the Government to hasten the freedom of every slave, but they never said that their immediate emancipation must be declared, and that all slaves must be at once freed from all control.”

The House ought to look back to the time when slavery was legally in force in English colonies, and imagine that France had shown some interest in urging the emancipation of slaves upon England, and

had lost no opportunity of pressing the matter upon us; would not the Ministry of the day have found great difficulty in yielding to the demands of foreigners, and, had they done so, would not the Opposition have charged them with not being sufficiently careful of the national honour? If there were any institution of ours to which foreigners took exception, as, for example, capital punishment, and if they urged its abolition—he did not say that the justification would be the same as in the case of slavery—but he felt confident that the noble lord opposite would be the first to denounce the Ministry that yielded to the foreign demand. (Hear.) He asked noble lords to place themselves in the position of Spanish statesmen, and recognise the difficulties that surrounded them. However, having regard to the statements of the Spanish Government, and bearing in mind their intention of ultimate emancipation, he felt it was merely a question of time and conditions and precautions, and could only assure his noble friend that the Government did not yield to him in their desire for the accomplishment of the great object. Once admitting that the object was to be obtained by moral influence, every one would perceive that it was necessary to consider the sentiments of those to whom we addressed ourselves. It was only by restraining ourselves that we could get rid of one of the greatest evils that had ever cursed humanity, and enable the Spanish Government to follow their own high-minded and humane instincts.

Earl GRANVILLE was afraid that both in this country and in Spain the speech of the noble marquis would not convey the impression of his desire to abolish slavery. He had, in fact, made a speech that sounded like a defence, not of our treaty engagements, but of the Spanish Government. The noble marquis asked what we should think if foreign Governments made representations to us with regard to the policy of capital punishment in this country. But the fallacy in that argument was, that on the subject of capital punishment a foreign country would have no treaty engagements with us. (Hear, hear.) That appeared to him (Earl Granville) to make the whole difference in the matter. The noble marquis deprecated exciting the feeling of the Spanish people. If he was not mistaken, a

debate was going on at that very moment in the Spanish Chambers on the subject of slavery, and the Opposition was pressing the Spanish Government to do exactly what the supporters of this motion wished. (Hear.) He accepted the assurance the noble marquis had given that Her Majesty's Government were in earnest on the matter; but he hoped that the papers promised by the noble marquis would show that the Government had done a little more than his speech indicated.

The Earl of BEACONSFIELD said it was not wise to rest too much upon treaties, but rather upon friendly and private representations to foreign Governments. The noble lord who had just addressed their lordships stated that at that very moment the Government of Spain were pressed by the Opposition in favour of the very views which the noble lord and his friends supported. But would the Opposition in Spain be pressing the Government for the suppression of slavery in Cuba if there had been a systematic pressure from foreign Governments on the Government of Spain? (Hear.) He thought the course Her Majesty's Government had taken had been perfectly consistent with the steps which this country had taken for the suppression of slavery! They had taken every fair opportunity of binding foreign Governments by treaty. They never contemplated that those treaties should be enforced as a matter of course if there were any apparent reluctance on the part of foreign Powers to fulfil their engagements. They trusted as much as they could to moral influence in order to gain their object. They never lost a proper opportunity of securing the co-operation of foreign Powers in the accomplishment of an object which was dear to this country, and which interested almost every civilised State. (Hear.)

The motion was then agreed to.

As a sign of the feeling aroused in Spain by the action of the Anti-Slavery Society, the following telegram, from the *Daily News* of July 28, will be of interest to the public:—

SPAIN AND THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

(BY SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—VIA HENDAYE.)

(From our own Correspondent.)

Madrid, Saturday.

Respecting the speeches of the leaders of the Opposition in the House of Lords, several

of the Madrid journals accuse Lord Selborne and Lord Granville of harsh and unfair appreciation of the policy of Spain. They state that in the treaty of 1817 Spain undertook to limit the slave-trade to vessels of her own nation, and she suppressed the slave-trade by the treaty of 1835. None of Lord Selborne's charges respecting the connivance of the Spanish and Cuban authorities in the slave-trade down to 1868 are refuted. The Madrid journals reject very haughtily all foreign interference in the question of the abolition of slavery, but I believe some partial measure will be proposed next year by Marshal Campos. No complete plan for the extinction of slavery is expected before the coolie immigration under the last Chinese treaty is sufficiently numerous to provide labourers for the plantations.

PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF SOLDIERS INTO THE SUGAR PLANTATIONS IN CUBA.

"THE Cuban authorities propose that 40,000 soldiers, or about one-half of the army of occupation, should work in the sugar plantations, receiving wages from the planters, but remaining subject to military discipline. They would thus insure tranquility and prevent incendiarism during the gradual emancipation of the slaves, besides forming a nucleus of free labour when slavery disappears."—*Times*, July 30, 1879.

Surely nothing could be conceived more wildly absurd and dangerous than this proposal of the Cuban planters.

That the proud and haughty Spaniard should condescend to work side by side with the despised negro slave is an idea too ludicrous to be seriously proposed, though we can well understand that 40,000 Spanish soldiers may be employed as the drivers of 300,000 slaves!

Spain surely can hardly have forgotten that those slaves who joined the late insurrection became free, and remain so to this day. Such a step as the introduction of these soldiers may very likely tend to kindle the flame of another insurrection, and cause a general rising amongst the down-trodden black population of Cuba.

IMPORTANT DECISION of the KING OF SPAIN proclaiming all SLAVES free for ever in the ISLAND of CUBA

who have visited any country where
Slavery has no legal existence.

Extract from Havana Official Gazette, May,
1879.

(Translated from the Spanish.)

HIS Excellency the Governor-General has received the following Royal Order from the Ministry of the Colonies:—

"MINISTRY OF THE COLONIES, No. 643.

"EXCELLENCY,—In view of the expediente made out in consequence of the claim made on the 25th November, 1875, by the slave Catalina—before the Third Syndicate of the city of Havana, demanding that she should be declared free, as also her two sons Josè and Federico—in which expediente it is established that, in the year 1844, the said Catalina sailed for the Peninsula, and resided eighteen months in the city of Malaga in the service of her owner Dona ———, who promised to give her her liberty on her return to Havana; and that on arrival there the said lady, instead of fulfilling the said promise, sold the slave to Don ———, from whose possession she passed successively to that of Don ———, Don ——— and Don ———, her possessor at the time of her claim; that on her return to the Peninsula she had her two son Josè and Federico, of whom Don ———, of Havana, and Don ——— of Matanzas were respectively owners in November, 1875; that four years before, Catalina had paid to her owner 350 dollars as a 'coartada,' and six more on account of her freedom, with ninety-six more already delivered to him; and that when the claimant was in the possession of Don ———, she brought an action against him about her liberty, in which the judge decided that there was no ground of action, and condemned the plaintiff in costs; which was reversed by the Audiencia, and confirmed on review, after which, cassation having been interposed in the year 1856, this was again reversed by the same tribunal without any appeal being made.

"His Majesty, the King (whom God preserve)—in conformity with the decision of

the Department of the Colonies, and having in view the Royal Orders of 29th March, 1836; of 12th July, 1865; the Decree of 29th September, 1866; and the Royal Order of 12th September last, and in accord with the Council of Ministers—has been pleased to order:—

"1st. That the negress, Catalina, be declared in a state of freedom and emancipation, her present possessor being paid the amount at which she is valued, less the sums which Catalina has delivered to him on account of her price, which must be returned to her; all this being done in the most convenient manner.

"2nd. That so also her sons, Josè and Federico, be declared to have been born free, and that they be immediately given letters of emancipation, their present possessors being indemnified in proper form, according as each is situated now.

"3rd. That these principles be applied to all the persons who to day remain in the Island of Cuba, after having resided from any cause in Europe or in any other country where slavery has no legal existence.

"And, 4thly, That this resolution be published in the *Madrid Gazette* as a precedent for the future,

"Which I communicate to your Excellency by Royal Order. God preserve your Excellency many years.

"Madrid, 16th April, 1879.

"ALBACTE, the Governor-General of the Island of Cuba."

And the carrying out of the above Royal Order, having been ordered by his Excellency on the 10th inst., it is published in the *Gazette* for general information.

JOAQUIM CARBONELL.

Habana, 13th May, 1879.

SLAVERY IN CYPRUS.

WE have to call the attention of our readers to the discussion which took place in the House of Lords, on the 28th of July last, respecting slavery in Cyprus and Turkey, of which we reprint a report.

The questions put by Lord Shaftesbury were trite and to the point. Not, so, however, the answers of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. We do not remember

to have seen anything so incompetent and unsatisfactory, even in the usual replies of the noble Marquis.

Sir Garnet Wolseley and Colonel Bidulph have stated that there is no such thing as involuntary servitude in Cyprus, and therefore we might feel bound to believe them. But Lord Salisbury evidently has some misgivings, for he goes on to try and strengthen his case by asserting that "wherever the Turkish law is enforced slavery is not likely to exist." Perhaps not; but where is the law enforced whenever it tends to restrain the passions and lessen the sensual gratifications of those who unfortunately have the administering of the law in that country?

Lord Salisbury himself naïvely admits that such cases *are very rare*.

He then goes on to inform the House that white slavery was abolished in 1854, and black slavery in 1857, and therefore "all slaves landed in Turkey after that date became free." Surely if the law were carried out properly, they would never have been slaves at all. Then his lordship argues that as the men no doubt die early, owing to the cruel mutilations to which they have been subjected, and as no one cares for old women and would therefore give them their freedom, it is probable that in many parts of Turkey very few slaves exist, and certainly none in Cyprus; though this, we think, is by no means proved.

Lord Salisbury admits that the slave traffic in Jeddah is horrible; but *if* the governors would only carry out the law there would be nothing to complain of! So, also, he allows that there is an illegal importation of slaves into Turkey to an enormous extent; but that it is totally prohibited by the firman of 1857, and therefore, adds his lordship, with a naïve simplicity, this is only one of many instances which show that "*if*"—mark the *if*—"the Turkish law were properly carried out, matters would go on very fairly in that country." No doubt they would; but if we, with all this knowledge of how Turkey persists in breaking her own laws and violating all treaties, still prop up her law-breaking Government, and allow her to carry on an illicit trade in slaves under our very eyes, whose is the fault? Surely, we who can enforce what we say—and that without going to war—are shamefully re-

miss not to insist that the Turkish flag shall cease at once and for ever to cover and protect this hideous traffic in human flesh.

Lord SHAFTESBURY: My lords, on the 11th of July of last year I put a question to the President of the Council in these words:—

"Whether it is the intention of Her Majesty's Government, on assuming the occupation and administration of Cyprus, to maintain, or suppress, as has been done in Her Majesty's dominions in India, the system of slavery now existing in the island."

And to this question I received the following answer:—

"I have to state that Sir Garnet Wolseley leaves this country to-morrow for Cyprus, and when he arrives there it will be his duty to make full inquiry and investigation into all the institutions of the island and everything connected with them. When that is done he will make a report to Her Majesty's Government as to the state of things he has found in Cyprus, and, having received such a report from him, Her Majesty's Government will then be in a position to state the course they intend to take."

I venture to repeat the question because a whole year has elapsed and no report from the Governor of Cyprus has as yet been laid on your lordships' table. Now, the question is of importance, not only as touching slavery in general, but as to the alleged fact that it is existing in Cyprus under British rule. I know perfectly well that no slave-trade openly exists, and that no such thing as a slave market is to be found in any part of the Turkish Empire. That system has long been abolished. But the sale and purchase of slaves are still carried on extensively by private agents and in private houses; and, indeed, constituted as Turkish society is, slavery is as necessary and indispensable to the empire, specially among the wealthier classes, as is the Sultan himself. Now, as Cyprus was for centuries under Turkish rule, the probability is that a similar system prevails, which is fed by large importations of slaves from East Africa and the Red Sea, for which latter traffic Turkey is specially responsible, as it is mainly conducted at Jeddah, a port in the Red Sea belonging to the Sultan of Turkey. From all quarters there are imported, as I am informed, some 70,000 slaves every year. None are imported for predial or agricultural purposes. The women are im-

ported as servants for the harems, and the men for other duties, for which they are previously fitted by the most cruel and disgusting mutilations. There is also a large and equally disgusting traffic in white slaves in the very centre of Turkey itself. Circassian slavery was put down by the Russians, but the Circassians, who immigrated into Turkey, have maintained their old habits and sell their sons and daughters to the highest bidders among the sensualists of Turkey. Now, this domestic slavery may prevail in Cyprus. If Cyprus be still under Turkish law, it is highly probable—certainly possible—and I trust, therefore, to learn from Her Majesty's Government whether, as Cyprus has now passed under British rule, they will not, following the precedent of the law enacted in India in 1843, decree the total and immediate abolition of slavery, whether external or domestic. (Hear, hear.)

The Marquis of SALISBURY: My lords, the promise referred to by my noble friend who has just addressed the House was given by my noble friend behind me (the Duke of Richmond and Gordon) last year during my absence from this country. With regard to a general report on the subject there is no objection to its production; but I have received the most distinct and categorical statements both from Sir Garnet Wolseley and Colonel Biddulph that involuntary servitude does not exist in Cyprus. It is stated so positively by persons who must know that I think there can be no doubt that the fact is as they state. If my noble friend recalls to his mind for a moment the state of the legislation in the Turkish Empire, he will see that wherever the Turkish law is honestly enforced slavery is not likely to exist. It is, unfortunately, a fact that the cases in which it is so enforced are very rare. The white slavery to which my noble friend has alluded was abolished by a decree of the Sultan in 1854, and the black slave-trade was abolished in 1857. Slaves landed in the Turkish Empire after those dates became free by the action of the law. My noble friend has justly stated that slavery in Turkey has been almost entirely confined to or connected with harem life. It is obvious that men treated in the manner which my noble friend glanced at are not likely to be long lived, and as there has been no legal importation of them since 1857, it is probable that there are not many of those slaves now in existence. As to the women, they are of little value when they become old; and as it

has been the custom in many parts of Turkey, and I presume in Cyprus, to manumit slaves when they get old, and as all who were imported after 1857 became free, I do not think that at the present time there is any person suffering servitude in Cyprus. With respect to the rest of the Turkish Empire, I agree with my noble friend that there is reason to fear that the state of things, especially at Jeddah, is horrible; but at the same time, if the local governors carried out the Turkish law, the practice would be put an end to. When the Ministerial crisis at Constantinople occurred, we had nearly concluded a Convention which would have given us a right of search in the Red Sea. We shall spare no efforts to put a stop to the supply of slaves to Turkey; and with respect to Cyprus I can only repeat the assurance that slavery does not exist there. When I saw my noble friend's notice on the paper I thought he was in possession of some facts which might show that the contrary was the case. I am glad, however, that it is not so, because if there were such facts no doubt my noble friend would have been supplied with them. But if there should be the slightest indication that any one is kept in servitude there against his will, we shall act in the matter without hesitation. I think, however, that my noble friend may be satisfied that nothing of the kind exists. (Hear, hear.)

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY: Does my noble friend say that there is no importation of slaves?

The Marquis of SALISBURY: No. There is an enormous importation at Jeddah; but it is prohibited by the decree of 1857. This is only one other proof that many of the Turkish laws if carried out would be good.

The Earl of SHAFTESBURY: Does my noble friend say that if there is any indication of the existence of slavery in Cyprus, Her Majesty's Government will act promptly?

The Marquis of SALISBURY: Oh, certainly. (Hear, hear.)

AFRICAN EXPLORATION.

MAJOR DE SERPA PINTO.

(From the *Standard*.)

"At a time when not only England, but Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal, and America, are seriously occupied in prosecuting African exploration on a large scale, the arrival in

Europe of a traveller, second only to Mr. Stanley in the extent and importance of his journey across the 'Dark Continent' is an event of no ordinary interest. Such a traveller is the young Portuguese Major de Serpa Pinto, who has arrived in Europe from Zanzibar and Aden, *en route* for Lisbon, after an absence of twenty months."

PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT RESOLVE TO SEND EXPEDITION TO SOUTHERN AFRICA.

"In August, 1877, the Portuguese Government having decided to equip an expedition for the exploration of Southern Africa, and having voted a sum of twelve thousand pounds for the purpose, the Minister of Marine selected for the command of this important service an officer who had resided some time in the Portuguese colonies of Africa, Major de Serpa Pinto. Starting from the Portuguese settlement of Benguela, on the Atlantic, 12°30' south latitude, on the 5th August, 1877, Major de Serpa Pinto traversed the continent of Africa from west to east, arriving at Durban, on the Indian Ocean, 30° south latitude, on the 14th April, 1879. It is unnecessary to allude here to the thousand dangers and hair-breadth escapes encountered by the gallant and intrepid traveller. All these will be fully described in the Major's forthcoming book, which, when published, will be found to be not only the most interesting volume of the season to general readers, but a profound and valuable study to the Geographical, and other learned societies. Major de Serpa Pinto's diary extends to five volumes of closely written matter, and is a model of precision and detail, containing a mine of information on all scientific subjects bearing on the objects of his journey. The barometrical, meteorological, and astronomical records are exceeded only by geographical and zoological statistics, and light is thrown on many points which up to the present time have been matter of doubt and dispute. Amongst the many treasures preserved are twenty charts, depicting minutely the countries passed through; three hundred drawings of the most remarkable places and scenes, including some forty cataracts at different points of the Zambesi; a collection of eighteen hundred plants, and a superb collection of insects and birds. The description of the sources of four great rivers, all starting from the same neighbourhood, Kangula, and of the discovery of the River Coando, navigable for six hundred miles, and flowing into the Zambesi, will place Major de Serpa Pinto in the first

rank of African explorers. Like Stanley, De Pinto is a small, spare man, looking somewhat older than his actual age, which is only thirty-four. To the casual observer it seems incredible that such a frame, not exactly weak, but certainly not powerful, could undergo so many hardships as such a journey involves. It is true that Major de Serpa Pinto had seen several years' military service in the African colonies of his country, and was acquainted with the Kaffir dialect, but no amount of mere training can produce such men with all the necessary natural qualifications."

SERPA PINTO'S RETURN AND RECEPTION IN LISBON.

Major Serpa Pinto delivered a very interesting lecture in Lisbon, in June last, before the King and a brilliant assemblage of the *élite* of Portuguese Society.

The Major has since then paid a visit to London, where he arrived too late to deliver a lecture before the Royal Geographical Society, whose session had already closed; but Lord Northbrook, the President of the Society, gave a *réunion* at his private residence, where the gallant traveller exhibited his various sketches, and gave an interesting *resumé* of his journey.

We have been informed by the officers of the Royal Geographical Society, who had to examine and report upon the Major's observations and charts, that they appear to be singularly correct and well done, whilst his sketches are extremely clever.

Major Serpa Pinto has now left England, but we understand he will return in time to attend the meeting of the British Association, to be held at Sheffield in the course of the present month.

From the report published by the *Standard* newspaper we extract a few of the salient points of the Major's lectures delivered in Lisbon. The accounts of the white race discovered in the heart of Africa are very curious, but we must await further confirmation of the existence of these people before fully accepting the statement as to their being really white.

EXTRACTS FROM THE EXPLORER'S LECTURE DELIVERED BEFORE THE KING OF PORTUGAL.

"As you well know, it is two years since I bade farewell to the Geographical Society of Lisbon, and started with two companions, both intimate friends. We arrived at Loanda and met with the usual difficulties to be encoun-

tered, both on the West and East Coast, when it is a question of organising an expedition to penetrate into the interior. . . . When we made our appearance at Loanda and Benguela none of the natives (even the seven that you now see on the platform here) could understand what our object was. As they thought of nothing but trade, and observed that we were not going to barter goods for ivory, wax, or india-rubber, they attributed our conduct to sorcery, and fled from us. So that the contracting of carriers, in doing which a merchant experiences no difficulty, became a difficult operation.

"The labours of solitary explorers are, as a rule, much richer than those of explorers who travel in company. This was the chief cause that made me form the resolution of separating from my companions, who departed in company. Separation having been resolved on, another point had to be discussed, viz., the roads we had to take. I believe that here in Portugal some one imagined that differences had arisen between me and my companions. Perhaps there was some truth in it. When three men join company in Africa, under such an atmospheric pressure as exists there; when for meat they have Indian corn or (*alpesta*) canary seed, and, for drink, water from the marshes, nobody can be surprised that a little alteration should take place in their characters. I believe that after a certain time, and after having said to each other what we had to say, we mutually hated each other, although, when a wall separated us, we were at heart most intimate friends."

THE MAJOR SEPARATES FROM HIS COMPANIONS, AND STARTS ALONE ON HIS JOURNEY ACROSS AFRICA.

"On separating it was very natural that I should receive a third part of the resources. In fact, this division took place. My companions, who, through ill-health, had combined to render each other mutual assistance, grew strong afterwards, while I fell ill at Bibé, which obliged me to stop there a long time. Besides seven blacks that remained with me I then had nine more from Benguela. I was obliged to provide food for all. I was accustomed to buy an ox when I wanted a beefsteak and wished to give food to my people. The result was, as is evident, great surprise; and in a short time—viz., the three months, my malady, a rheumatic fever, lasted—my resources were almost exhausted. When my critical

situation was known in Benguela, the Governor and some merchants sent word that I should want for nothing, but I did not avail myself of their generous offer. Benguela was far off. It was March. It was either necessary to start or abandon the enterprise. At last one day I resolved on departing with the little I had, and wrote three farewell letters to Europe. . . .

"A great number of the tribes I met with had no idea whatever of religion. All, however, recognise and respect one great power in the universe, viz., the King of Portugal. I was always well received wherever I mentioned the king's name. When my funds ran short I refrained from mentioning the King of Portugal's name for shame's sake. I do not consider that African exploration is attended by any insurmountable difficulty. I am convinced that any Portuguese could do what I have done. I paid my blacks at the following rates:—The 'longest' received 4,500 rs., the shortest 3,000 rs. monthly. They knew that they were perfectly free, and might depart when they wished, but they were attached to me. The interpreter was Verissimo Gonzales. He is very intelligent, speaks the dialects of Benguela and Sesuto, which were taught him by a Parisian lady who resides in Africa."

HOW THE EXPLORER PRESERVED HIS CHRONOMETER.

"On my departure from Bibé I called one of the blacks (the black referred to is named Catraio, and stood near the explorer during the lecture) and said to him, 'Do you see those instruments that make a noise, that move? (the chronometers). Well, you must never let them stop. Bring them to me every day, so that I may keep them always going. The day that you forget to bring them to me you shall be roasted alive on a spit.' Poor Catraio thought I was serious, and, as if he himself were a chronometer, punctually wound up the chronometers from that day forward. On one occasion, suffering from delirium, burning with fever, after a hard combat, and a few minutes before having to confront a serious danger, I saw to the chronometers, carefully comparing them. We were soon afterwards attacked by surprise by a numerous band of savages; my baggage was captured and likewise my chronometers, which the enemy carried with them in triumph across a broad stream. While I was lamenting the next day over the misfortunes of the eve,

Catraio, to my profound astonishment, suddenly appeared, his countenance all radiant, and holding up a chronometer in triumph. On being questioned, he confessed that he had swum across the stream, traced the whereabouts of our enemies, and the spot where they had deposited their plunder. Watching his opportunity, he secured his friend the chronometer, to whom he is doubtless still grateful for having saved him from the inglorious fate of ending his young days by being subjected to the culinary process above mentioned."

SERPA PINTO PROCEEDS ON HIS JOURNEY ACROSS AFRICA.

"Let us now proceed on our journey from Benguela to Durban. . . . Benguela is situated in 12° 30' south latitude, and is a city of which all speak badly, but which, after all, is not so bad as is represented, for persons who have been attacked with fever in Mossamedes go to Benguela to be cured. I do not mean to say by this that Benguela is a paradise, but it should be borne in mind that many places in Africa that bear a terrible name in Europe, are not so bad as they are painted. Benguela cannot be considered as a bad region, for though there is a scarcity of good water in the town itself, excellent water is obtainable in the wood of Cavaco close by. It is, however, true that the blacks who go in search of the precious liquid are sometimes devoured by wild beasts. The expedition left Benguela by a road entirely different from that followed by Camern. In my opinion the most precise and accurate observations taken in South Africa are due to Cameron. Cameron was fully aware that explorers should have in view something more elevated than meeting with adventures which may be interesting as narratives. Cameron, therefore, always strove during his travels to be in a position to observe with exactness. . . ."

WOMEN LABOURERS.—A RACE OF NATIVE TRAVELLERS.

"The land here, as in all parts of Africa, is cultivated by women. The negro does not work. The Bihean has become a great traveller. France, Germany, Russia, Turkey, Italy, Spain, Portugal and England have sent all their old fire-arms to South Africa. There are millions of arms here. The English a short time ago sold 40,000 Martini-Henry rifles to the Zulus. We, better informed on the subject than the English, only sell them

arms that are good for nothing. These arms are principally distributed and exchanged by Biheans, who traverse the continent from the Equator to the Cape of Good Hope. I have visited many tribes who had never before seen a white man, but I never met with one who had not come in contact with the inhabitants of Bihé. Merchants are, on that account, very much at their ease in Bihé, enjoy many comforts, and are well treated. Great expeditions depart from Bihé, and an old infantry soldier, of the 2nd regiment of Portugal, who is still living out there, once went as far as the Zaire, as agent for a Benguela house, at the head of two thousand blacks, carrying merchandise. What the people of Bihé cannot understand is the object explorers have in view in penetrating into the interior of Africa to see rivers and mountains, and take observations with instruments. I must not forget to mention that Cameron left forty guns at Bihé, which I purchased for fivepence each, and armed my people with."

TRACES THE SOURCES OF A GREAT RIVER.

"After leaving Bihé I struck the Quanza, flowing to the north, and soon afterwards the Cuito, an affluent of the Cuando, running to the south. Aided by the information received from the natives, I succeeded in determining the sources of the Cuando. All the great rivers of South Africa have their sources in an immense rich plain, one thousand seven hundred metres above the level of the sea, in 12 deg. south latitude. The way in which rivers take their rise and are formed in Africa is curious. In the beginning a slight humidity is observable, resembling the trickling of a small fountain; but by degrees the current swells, and suddenly, without having received any visible affluents, becomes an enormous river, on which one may sail at will. At its source the Cuando is a tiny rill, which I saw flowing between my feet. A little lower down, I descended in a canoe, accompanied by my two little blacks here. The river is quite navigable till it enters the Zambesi, where Livingstone called it the Chobe, a name entirely unknown at the present day in Africa. It forms many curves, which delay navigation. Many of the affluents of the Cuando are navigable. There is a cataract at the extremity of one which was almost fatal to me, as it had never been mentioned by anybody. There is no connection by water between the Cuando and the Cubango. The course I followed was through Ungo-é-Ungo,

which would lead me from the Cuando to the Upper Zambesi. The ground I traversed was all miry, an immense marsh. I was accompanied on my passage through a part of this region by natives generously supplied by a friendly chief. There was no game; water covered everything, and we consequently suffered much misery and many privations."

EXTRAORDINARY DISCOVERY OF A NATIVE WHITE RACE.

"I here made one of the most curious discoveries of my journey. I one day noticed that one of the carriers was a white man. He belonged to a race entirely unknown up to the present day. A great white people exists in South Africa. Their name is Cassequer; they are whiter than the Caucasians, and in place of hair have their heads covered with small tufts of very short wool. Their cheek-bones are prominent, their eyes like those of the Chinese. The men are extremely robust. When they discharge an arrow at an elephant the shaft is completely buried in the animal's body. They live on roots and the chase, and it is only when these supplies fail them that they hold any relations with the neighbouring races, the Ambuelas, from whom they obtain food in exchange for ivory. The Cassequeres are an entirely nomadic race, and never sleep two nights in the same encampment. They are the only people in Africa that do not cook their food in pots. They wander about in groups of from four to six families, over all the territory lying between the Cuchi and the Cubango. It would seem that from a crossing of the Cassequeres with the negroes of other races, sprang those mulattoes of the South whom the English call bushmen."

After leaving this strange white race, the Major's adventures became more and more desperate. At one time we find him attacked by blacks, and his camp burned down; at another he almost perishes from thirst, and finds himself, when he regains consciousness, tended by the wife and daughter of a French missionary. Then he meets a Dr. Bradshaw, who was collecting for the British Museum, and who had been so despoiled by the natives that his wardrobe was nearly exhausted, and he had to receive our traveller in his shirt and drawers only. He visited the Victoria Falls of Livingstone, which he measured whilst dangling over the abyss, suspended by his clothes, and held up by negroes (*sic*). At

length he crossed the Transvaal, passing between Colonel Pearson's column and the Zulu army, and arrived in safety, but almost half starved, at Durban, Port Natal.

We hear that Major Serpa Pinto's account of his recent extraordinary journey across Africa is now being rapidly prepared for the press. Arrangements are being made for simultaneous publication in English, Portuguese, French, and German. The work will be ready for publication before Christmas, and will be issued by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston & Co.

UNIVERSITIES' MISSION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.

THE annual meeting of this institution was held at Willis's Rooms, 21st July. The Bishop of London was in the chair, and on the platform, besides the Secretary (the Rev. R. M. Heanley, B.A.) were, among the society's home supporters, the Hon. and Rev. L. Nevil, M.A., Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge; the Rev. Professor Ince, M.A., of Oxford; Sir T. F. Buxton, Mr. R. N. Cust, the Rev. Messrs. J. T. Webber, M.A., J. W. Festing, M.A., Horace Waller, F.R.G.S., and F. Slater, M.A. The missionaries present were the Rev. J. P. Farler, B.A., who returns to Africa next month, and the Rev. Charles Maples, who has just arrived from the stations in the Rovuma district on the mainland. With them, conspicuous for his swarthy features and full native costume, was Acland Sahera, a liberated slave, now in course of education at Warminster for the Christian ministry, having already been trained in the Zanzibar mission school. At his baptism he was named after Dr. Acland, of Oxford, a warm friend to the Universities' mission. In his opening address the Bishop of London alluded to the origin of the mission, which was proposed to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge by Livingstone in 1859, and under his inspiration at once plunged into the interior of the continent. From Lindi, a port to the south of Zanzibar, a chain of stations has been extended in a western direction to the river Rovúma, and will be pushed on to the eastern shore of the Lake Nyassa during the present year. From Pangáni, the same mission has pushed into the Usambála country, and founded a sta-

tion at Magila. The lowland betwixt the Indian Ocean and the first range of Central Africa is occupied by the tribes of the Uzegua and Uzaramo; their languages are being acquired by these spirited pioneers, and settlements being made. A road from Dar-es-Salaam to the Lake Nyassa is being constructed by Mr. Mackinnon and Sir T. Fowell Buxton. Thus a legitimate commerce will spring up and extinguish the slave-trade, traces of which still linger, though the Sultan of Zanzibar is loyal and true to his treaty engagements. Information of the safe arrival at Rubága, the capital of the kingdom of Uganda, on the north side of Victoria Nyanza, of the three agents of the Church Missionary Society, who were despatched by the route of the Nile, has reached London, and the news is very cheering as to the disposition of King Mtesa, who has now five Englishmen as his guests. News has also been received of the arrival on the southern coast of the lake of the party of French Roman Catholic missionaries, who are also bound to the same capital. King Mtesa will now have an opportunity of informing himself of the different nationalities and religions of Europe.

LIBERIA.

WE have much pleasure in again calling attention to the earnest labours of Mr. Edward S. Morris in the good cause of promoting the emigration of negroes from America to Liberia. Mr. Morris considers that the climate and soil of that colony are admirably adapted for the growth of coffee, and that every free black man may obtain a piece of land and grow sufficient coffee to support himself and his family. Without fully endorsing these sanguine views, which we think require a few more data before they can be taken in the wide sense claimed for them by Mr. Morris, we have no hesitation in fervently wishing him all the success he so fully deserves, and we are glad to lay before our readers the name of an interesting little pamphlet on this subject called "*Christian Liberia, the Hope of the Dark Continent*," by Alfred S. Dyer. London: Dyer Brothers, 21, Paternoster Square, 1879. From the *Planters' Gazette* of 31st May, 1879, we extract the following notice

of Liberian coffee:—" *Liberian Coffee*.— At one of the recent meetings of the Linnean Society the fellows were regaled with coffee made from the Liberian variety, presented by Mr. Morris, a gentleman who has taken much interest in the introduction of this coffee into the American market, where it fetches a high price. Mr. Morris has also established plantations of this variety in Liberia itself, and trusts by its means to promote not only the commercial welfare of the country, but also the civilisation of the native races. Mr. Morris has received the official thanks of the President of the Liberian Republic for his services."

SHOOTING ZULUS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

In the *Standard* of 17th July appears the following, from their Special Correspondent in Zulu-land. We presume that this gentleman is a civilian, engaged in what ought to be purely a peaceful occupation. At any rate he is not authorised by the war authorities to fight for the honour of England (!) Nevertheless he thus calmly describes his adventures when out on an expedition, whose object appeared to be "stalking Zulus":—

"The *gros* of our little force had pushed on towards the camp under a rise of the ground where they were not visible to the Zulus, there being only Colonel Buller, Captain Cochrane, with a few of his mounted natives, AND MYSELF, forming the reconnoitring party. Directly we came into sight the few scouts advanced into the valley turned, and made for the main body. They were not more than 500 yards from us, and I and Captain Cochrane, who carried Martini-Swinburne carbines, DISMOUNTED TO TRY A FEW SHOTS. My gallant comrade got off a shot which quickened the pace of the retiring Zulus immensely; but, to my intense disgust, AFTER COVERING ONE OF THE FUGITIVES, I got a miss-fire, followed by two others, in quick succession."

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., thus writes upon this subject, in reply to a letter sent to him by us, asking him to inquire of the Government whether this Special Correspondent was a military officer on active service:—

"I am afraid there is nothing to prevent a correspondent indulging himself in shooting at those whom we have made our enemies by our arbitrary and unjustifiable policy. The evil goes much deeper than the conduct of a single individual. In South Africa at the present time the native is regarded as little better than a wild beast, and the English flag is made to cover oppression, tyranny, and outrage of the worst kind."

We fear this is only too true, not only in South Africa, but wherever the white Settler comes in contact with the half-civilised native. We have ourselves heard respectable Settlers (?) in Queensland assert that they should think no more of shooting a "nigger" than they should of killing a kangaroo!

We are glad to find that Sir Wilfrid Lawson asked a question on this subject in the House of Commons, though we regret that Colonel Stanley, the Secretary for War, treated the matter with considerable levity. He admitted that the conduct described was unjustifiable, but he noted that, though the newspaper correspondent twice attempted to shoot a Zulu, yet, *his rifle did not in either instance go off!* "It does not appear," said the gallant Colonel, "that he hurt the Zulu, or even that he frightened him." And so the House indulged in a burst of merriment, amidst which the Secretary for War declared that it was not necessary *in this case* to take any notice of the matter! However, he added that, if the practice became general, he should take steps to prevent correspondents from assuming the offensive on their own account.

SOUTHERN ABYSSINIA.

In our last issue (page 191 of the *Reporter*) we printed some very interesting information respecting MENELEK, King of SHOA, which was kindly supplied to us by our friend Theophilus Waldmeier, head of the Mission Station at Brumana, Mount Lebanon.

This information will now be re-read with additional interest in connection with the very valuable and satisfactory letter which has since then been received by this Society, direct from King Menelek, and with his royal seal attached.

The letter is written in Amharic, but it

is accompanied by a German translation from our good friend, the missionary Johann Meyer, who was formerly one of the captives detained in Abyssinia by King Theodore, and a zealous fellow-labourer with Theophilus Waldmeier in that portion of the Lord's vineyard. He is now engaged in spreading the knowledge of the Gospel in Southern Abyssinia, and we commend his graphic letter to the notice of all our readers. May we not now begin to feel that Ethiopia has not stretched out her hands unto God in vain?

Our friend, Johann Meyer, who is well acquainted with the African customs, strongly recommends that a suitable present be sent to King Menelek by this Society, as an acknowledgment of their pleasure at receiving from him so favourable an answer to the appeal which was addressed to him by the Anti-Slavery Society, some five years ago, with regard to the suppression of the slave-trade in his dominions. The Committee are very desirous to comply with the suggestion made by their valued correspondent, and would earnestly call upon all well-wishers to the good cause to send a special donation to the Treasurer or Secretary towards this object.

With regard to the hostile action of the Egyptian Government, in closing the road from the interior of Shoa to the Red Sea, a communication has been addressed to the Foreign Office, of which a copy is inserted below. We trust that in our next issue we may be able to report that some decided step has been taken by Her Majesty's Government in this matter.

ABOLITION OF THE SLAVE-TRADE

BY THE
KING OF SHOA.

*Translation of a Letter from JOHANN MEYER,
dated from Ankobar, Kingdom of Shoa,
20th December, 1878.*

YOUR honoured letter to KING MENELEK in SHOA I received on the 22nd October, 1878. According to your wish, I immediately translated it, and waited an opportunity of presenting it. It has realised the saying of the King of Israel, "All things have their time."

The King could not at first make up his mind to give up the slave-trade on account

of its very profitable character; but at length he resolved to abolish this trade throughout his dominions.

In this resolution he was strengthened by the conduct of the Egyptian Government, who blockaded the Port of Zeyla and Tadjura, and closed the way to the coast, *except for the traffic of slaves.*

His Majesty is deeply hurt at this closing of a route which has always been left open to the kings of Shoa, and he prayed me to earnestly call upon the Anti-Slavery Society to raise their voice in order to obtain for him simple justice, and the reopening of his road to the coast as in former times.

I know of my own personal experience that the King has not given any cause to the Egyptian Government for this arbitrary blockade of his route to the coast.

It is very much to our interest that there should be a free and open road to the coast, for our letters sent by way of Aden and Zeyla have long been stopped, and the best route for this country to carry on communication with Europe is by way of Aden.

The King, therefore, appeals to the Queen of England and the other European powers to procure for him the removal of this blockade of his dominions, which has the sad effect of preventing him from receiving the benefits of European civilisation.

As the highly honoured Anti-Slavery Society, in their noble wish to promote good and Christian feelings, grudge no outlay, however great it may be, in order to carry out this great work for the human race everywhere, I would venture to suggest, that, according to the African custom, they should make a suitable present to King Menelek in recognition of his efforts to put down the African slave-trade.

As appropriate for this purpose, I might recommend the sending out of

A handsome Persian carpet,
A red silk umbrella,
Handsomely bound writing books with
good strong paper,
An assortment of small and large writing
paper, envelopes, and quills,
Pocket books,
Several beautiful remnants of silk,
White cotton stuff for shirts,
Black cloth stuff for cloaks,
And any other small articles.

Please send your reply, in German, *via* Aden.

Translation from the Amharic and from the German.

LETTER FROM THE KING OF SHOA

"To the ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY IN LONDON.

"Highly honoured Gentlemen,

"May this writing of Menelek, King of Shoa, safely reach my friends of the Anti-Slavery Society in London. With the greatest respect I ask you how it goes with you. I, my people, and my army are well. God be praised therefor.

"Dear Friends,—You formerly wrote to me and advised me that for a Christian King the institution of the slave-trade in his kingdom was an inconsistency. I have accepted your advice, and I am now convinced of its truth. Herewith, I send you the joyful message, as answer, that I have abolished the slave-trade in my whole kingdom and in its borders, for I am a Christian. Therefore, consider me, henceforth, with all goodwill, as your friend.

"My country is far distant from your country. My road to the Coast, to Zeyla, Tajura, and Aden is at present closed to me by the Mussulmans,—to wit, the Egyptian Government. They prevent my receiving into my country either provisions, arms agricultural implements, artisans, or even messengers of the Gospel.

"Will you kindly raise your powerful voice in order that I may have this way opened to me, for I desire to inaugurate in my kingdom European civilisation, intelligence and art?

"Given at Ankobar, the 14th. December, 1878,

Seal.

and translated into German, by

J. MEYER, and }
J. J. GRENIER, } *Missionaries."*

*British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society,
27, New Broad Street, London, E.C.,
10th July, 1879.*

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE MARQUIS
OF SALISBURY, K.G., HER MAJESTY'S
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

My Lord,—On behalf of the Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, we beg to submit to your Lordship

a copy of a letter received by the Society from Menelek, King of Shoa and of Southern Abyssinia.

In connection with the subject matter of this letter, we would refer your Lordship to a Memorial presented by a joint deputation from some of the Chambers of Commerce and of the Committee of this Society to the Earl of Derby, on the 4th of August, 1876.

On that occasion the attention of Her Majesty's Government was earnestly called to the practical suppression of all commerce with the Highlands of Abyssinia which resulted from the action of the Egyptian Government, producing as it did not merely an injury to the trading interests of England and of other nations, but proving itself to be a measure specially designed for sheltering the slave-trade, and for promoting interference with that nefarious traffic.

The arrangements made by Col. Gordon, and the relations concluded between Egypt and King John of Abyssinia, will (as we understand them, and so long as they subsist) confer a free passage for goods to King John's dominions, through the port of Massowah; but, as your Lordship will see from the letter of the King of Shoa herewith enclosed, the exclusion of all legitimate trade with other countries is still maintained in full force as regards the whole of Southern Abyssinia.

We would, therefore, on behalf of the Committee of this Society, most earnestly ask Her Majesty's Government to at once move that of Egypt to do away with the restrictions herein complained of.

In conclusion, we would respectfully submit to your Lordship's consideration, whether, amongst those changes, political and territorial, which may be awaiting Egypt, it may not be a wise policy on the part of Her Majesty's Government to promote a cession of the ports of Massowah, Zeyla and Tajura, to Northern and Southern Abyssinia, as being a measure which, on the one hand, will remove from those countries a perennial incentive to wars and bloodshed; and, on the other, will powerfully conduce to the extension of ~~Egyptian~~ ^{European} commerce and civilisation to those most productive, but now isolated, regions.

The fact of the letter of the King of Shoa having been nearly seven months on its road to England, may afford proof to your Lordship—were such proof necessary—of

the difficulties that now exist in all communications between Southern Abyssinia and the civilised world.

We are, with much respect,

JOSEPH COOPER, } *Hon.*

EDMUND STURGE, } *Secs.*

CHARLES H. ALLEN, *Secretary.*

Up to the time of going to press no answer has been received to the letter addressed to Lord Salisbury. The Committee are very anxious to comply with Mr. Mayer's recommendation of sending a present to the King of Shoa. The cost they estimate at about £100, and they earnestly hope to receive contributions for this object from friends of the Anti-Slavery cause. Remittances may be sent to the Offices of the Society.

GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

WE regret to hear that Herr Rohlf's is about to retire from the leadership of the expedition fitted out by the German-African Association. The long delay consequent upon the hostility of the fanatical Znusi, who decline to furnish a guide to Wadai, notwithstanding an offer of 1,000 thalers, has led to this resolution. Dr. A. Strecker will take charge of the expedition, and as the new Turkish governor of Bengazi has been instructed to promote its objects, an early start will no doubt be made. But even thus far a considerable amount of geographical work has been done. Not only has a new route from Sokna to Aujila been surveyed, but it has also been ascertained by careful barometrical and boiling-point observations that that oasis does not occupy a depression in the Libyan Desert, sinking below the level of the sea, as was supposed hitherto. Aujila has an altitude of 98 feet, the neighbouring Salo of 60 feet—the longitude of the latter being 21° 25' E. of Greenwich.—*Athenæum*.

SLAVERY AND THE SLAVE-TRADE IN THE RED SEA.

WE receive and publish with pleasure the following letter from a well-known correspondent, which appeared lately in an Alexandrian newspaper:—

"(To the Editor of the *Egyptian Messenger*.)

"*Alexandria, 23rd June, 1879.*

"SIR,—Trustworthy reports induce us to believe more than ever that on the Red Sea

Turkish ships transport Abyssinian and Nubian slaves to various destinations in the Levant and in the East.

"The Cosmopolitan Society of London for the Abolition of Slavery has already on various occasions, not only lately, called the attention of the British Government to invite the Porte to put an end to such a deplorable state of things. The Government of the Sultan sent instructions to the Governor-General of Hedjaz, where the trade in human flesh continues, as ever, to carry it on on a large scale, and that, in spite of treaties and conventions and the protests of the European Consular Agents established at Jeddah. But these orders of the Vizier led to no other result than to make the inhabitants murmur against such measures. Some fanatics, of the category of those who undertook the massacre of 1858 against our brothers the Europeans, commenced plotting in the dark, and if it had not been for the energetic protests of the various Consuls residing there, who sent a special messenger from Jeddah to Mecca to the Governor-General of Hedjaz, taking on themselves this responsibility on account of what might happen, and the wise measures taken in consequence by this functionary, who at once sent 500 troops, an equal number of infantry and cavalry, a revolution would certainly have happened in the city.

"Hardly had the armed force been sent when the Governor-General came in person to Jeddah on the night of the 17th-18th of May last. The next and following days the Megless, which is a Council composed of certain notabilities of the country, was assembled under the Presidency of the Governor-General in order to take measures with regard to the drawing of lots and to restrain the too great abuses which had prevailed there for so long. On the other hand, the English and Dutch Consuls insisted with great energy on the cessation of such things. They made it appear clearly that the drawing of lots and slavery are bad things; that for the progress of good they must be abolished for ever, and that treaties exist between Turkey and the European Powers for this end.

"A few days later an English man-of-war anchored in the roads of Jeddah, and the whole city returned to its ordinary condition.

"We believe that other frigates have arrived in these waters, and, amongst others, one Italian and one French, destined to co-operate with that of Her Britannic Majesty.

"The last news received from Jeddah informs us of the death of the Governor-General, under date 7th June.

"According to report the said functionary was the victim of black treachery on the part of certain notabilities of Mecca and of Jeddah. Those who know the history of these countries cannot ignore how easily a cup of coffee is administered by those wretches, which leads to eternal sleep!

"'Oh, God! what horrible things!' your benevolent and sympathising readers will exclaim, and they still take place in our times!

"Every time the Government of Stamboul wished to put a stop to the slave-trade in Arabia it was always difficult. We will only relate here that the Vizier's letters of 1855, of June 1859, and June 1862, had for their object the destruction of the infamous traffic in human beings, and produced nothing but animosity and rancour on the part of the Arabs against the Turks and their Government; in fact, little was wanting then for the Ottoman Government to have seen their Arabian possessions in full insurrection.

"The events which took place recently are a new proof.

"Let the civilised Powers put themselves in accord then; let them take prompt, energetic measures; let them employ coercion where the voice of reason is not listened to.

"It is time to solve this vast problem, which is really one of social economy, as has already been loudly proclaimed by an illustrious French writer in the Conference of Paris, in 1867, having for its object the abolition of slavery, which still infests, in this nineteenth century, the terrestrial globe.

"Leaving to your worthy paper the task of combating slavery, and persuaded that you will accord us the same hospitality in your columns that you have already given to our other letters, accept a *sincere shake of the hand* from

"Your obedient,
"GUILIO SAKAKINI."

PROPOSED RAILWAY FROM ALGERIA TO THE NIGER.

"A COMMISSION has been appointed by M. de Freycinet to report on the feasibility of a railway between Algeria, the Soudan, and Senegal. The population of the Soudan is estimated (remarks M. de Freycinet) at

100,000,000. The Niger traverses half of it. The inhabitants are industrious. The moving sands, formerly considered universal, are only a local accident, and the soil is everywhere similar to that of European soils. A railway from Algeria to the Niger would not exceed 2,000 kilometres, and would be much less costly than the projected Panama canal. A preliminary commission has already recommended the scheme, one ground being that it would repress the internal slave-trade; but it enjoins circumspection on account of the imperfect knowledge of certain parts of the Sahara. It therefore suggests a survey for a line of 300 kilometres between Biskra and Ouargla to be connected with the Algiers and Constantine line, and that explorations should be made beyond Ouargla towards the Niger. The Budget Committee and a Senatorial Committee on Algerian Railways have also pronounced in favour of France taking an active part in the opening up of Central Africa. The Commission now appointed is headed by General d'Andigné and Mendes, and includes M. Lesseps, various senators and deputies, and a number of engineers."—*The Times*, July 15, 1879.

The French Government appear to be moving seriously in this matter; for we find that M. de Freycinet, the Minister of Public Works, has forwarded a letter to the President of the Republic recommending a survey of the proposed route, and the President has granted the necessary decree for appointing a Commission.

The Budget Committee of the Chamber of Deputies has thus expressed its concurrence in the scheme:—"Africa is attracting the attention of the civilised world more and more. France situated nearer to this Continent than most other nations, and more directly interested in its future by her possessions in Algeria, in Senegal, in Gaboon, and by her numerous factories established on the West Coast, cannot but take her part in this movement, which is drawing Europe towards those regions in Africa whose wealth we are just beginning to perceive. Do not the greatness and the interests of our country command us to place ourselves at the head of this movement?"

The Commission are now ordered to collect and arrange all the information requisite for this—we sincerely trust PEACE-

FUL—invasion, of the vast territories of north and central Africa, so that a railway from the Mediterranean to the Niger may shortly be commenced.

We heartily wish well to this great project, for we fully believe that every opening that is made to admit the light of civilisation into the heart of the "Dark Continent," will assist in the glorious work of destroying that curse of humanity—the African slave-trade.

Yet even with the establishment of railroads in Africa we must not relax our vigilance; for it is possible for such improved means of communication occasionally to be employed as an aid to carry on this nefarious traffic. It may be remembered that some time ago one of our correspondents detected a number of slaves *hidden away in water tanks* on the railroad between Suez and Cairo! Truly the slave-dealer is as ingenious as he is wicked and cruel!

PRESENT ASPECT OF AFFAIRS IN EASTERN AFRICA.

WE have received the subjoined communication from an old, and we may say the best-informed, friend and coadjutor in all our efforts for the suppression of the terrible slave-hunting expeditions which desolate Eastern Africa. We cordially sympathise with him in his indignation at the paltry gift of cast-off old rifles which our Government has presented to our loyal ally the Sultan of Zanzibar, and we trust that an opportunity will yet arise for the British nation to make a far more appropriate and valuable gift to this humane and enlightened Sovereign, who has done so much for the benefit of the poor friendless Slave.

"Whilst in Darfur and Kordofan we learn that Colonel Gordon has not only broken up the old and well-organised slaving establishments, so that it is well nigh impossible for the evil to regain its former vitality, we have evidence that in the countries bordering on the Sultan of Zanzibar's sea-board there is a tendency for the traffic in slaves to revive.

"Mr. Johnson, one of Bishop Steere's mission staff, located at Masasi, on the direct slave route between Kilwa and Lake Nyassa, sends some distressing details by this mail of the activity with which Machemba, a Tao chief near the Rovuma, collects slaves for the

Arab dealers. Slaves have even of late passed in numbers amounting to one and two hundred at a time through the mission station. Mr. Johnson has promptly reported these facts to Her Majesty's energetic Consul, Dr. Kirk, at Zanzibar, but it is very questionable whether the Sultan's arm—although growing longer and longer every day in its reach—can put any pressure upon Machemba. It is worthy of remark that the evil effects of the shipment of arms and ammunition to the East Coast of Africa about the time of the outbreak of the Zulu war can now be traced with ease. The Scotch missionaries were the first to report from Blantyre that a sudden activity had sprung up in their vicinity in the collection of slaves owing to large numbers of muskets having been brought into the Shiré highlands, and the date of the new troubles coincides with dates mentioned by the merchants who proved to the satisfaction of our Government authorities that their shipments were not for the Zulus, but for ports to the north of the Zambesi. Machemba, too, frankly tells the missionaries who have visited him and boldly expostulated with him, that, till others choose to come and open up legitimate trade with him, he has no alternative but to draw his supplies from the Arabs, who know but one operation, viz., *the exchange of guns, powder, calico, and beads, for slaves and ivory!* Until more than moral pressure is put upon mercantile houses which ship arms, ammunition, and spirits, to the African sea-board we may hope in vain for any great change amongst the tribes in the interior of Africa. It is not too much, however, to trust that one outcome from the joint professions of England and Portugal of late, together with the absolute sincerity of the Sultan of Zanzibar in putting down the slave-trade, may be the cessation of the abominable trade to which we refer.

"Whilst on this subject of arms, it was with a sense of mingled shame and indignation that we read the reply given by Lord Salisbury to Earl Granville in the House of Lords on the 15th of July, respecting the recognition by England of the strenuous and self-sacrificing exertions made by the Sultan of Zanzibar to assist us in our national work of extirpating the slave-trade. Lord Granville said that, with respect to the Sultan's treaty with us, 'he had not only fulfilled its conditions to the letter but had even gone beyond them.' The Marquis of Salisbury, in willingly bearing testimony to

the 'complete conversion' of the Sultan and his 'most cordial co-operation' in the suppression of the slave-trade,' replied that 'if we succeeded in destroying the 'slave-trade' it would no doubt be mainly owing to his co-operation.' As a specimen of the intelligent way in which we secure the goodwill and cordial co-operation of Orientals, commend us to the following as a piece of diplomatic tact and management! Lord Salisbury thus continues his address:— 'Our acknowledgments have recently taken the substantial form of a present of a considerable number of *Enfield rifles*,' but, as though half ashamed that our diplomatic right hand should suddenly and too rudely become aware of the lavish treatment of the Sultan's cordial co-operation by its left, he concludes by adding that he 'merely refers to this as showing that we are not insensible, &c., to the valuable assistance we have received from the Sultan.'

"Rightly to appreciate that which is probably passing in the Sultan's mind about the time that he hears of this magnificent gift by the British Government, we may add that the Sultan, out of his own exchequer, has of late provided himself with a new man-of-war, built by Messrs. Denny, Brothers, on the Clyde, and that he has in his armaments taken care to come up to the requirements of the age by purchasing, from England, steel cannon, Gatling guns and *Martini-Henry rifles*. It will be interesting to know whether the *old Enfields* have been relegated to a Zanzibar museum as a specimen of British courtesy, or whether, as on the West Coast, a few cast-off suits of plush have been added to the present with a hint that his Prime Minister will look well in them! 'quien sabe?' These rifles have not lacked notice before now in the House of Commons. On one occasion it will be remembered that the dangers attending their use were not disguised ministerially. If the Seyyid comes to Europe again (as we see it stated he is about to do) let us hope that trade may have so far revived by that time that our own birdscarers and poachers will have cleared out this stock of *Enfield rifles* for their several requirements; for do we not now see these rifles in every country ironmonger's shop exhibited for sale at from 7s. to 9s. apiece? We cannot acquit Lord Granville of blame when we notice that he allowed Lord Salisbury's astounding statement to pass without remark; for this treatment of a Foreign

Prince thus receives the direct imprimatur of both parties in the House of Lords. No one knows better than Lord Granville the course which diplomatic relations with Zanzibar has taken during late years, nor can we forget how complete a master he is of the situation when an exercise of foreign or domestic courtesy is called for. In this instance a rebuke would have done good if only to refresh the official mind as to what is due to the Sultan of Zanzibar, albeit slave-trade matters lie far a field from political Opposition, and need no exercise of its asperities. We regret that the opportunity has been lost, and we have our suspicions that much evil has been done by a blunder of more than ordinary grossness."

In reference to this presentation of *Enfield rifles*, so admirably criticised by our correspondent, we reproduce a short discussion that took place in the House of Lords on this subject on the 14th July last. We only regret that Lord Granville did not express an opinion upon the extreme poverty of this national gift, to a Sovereign who has admittedly gone further in carrying out a treaty than was even asked of him.

"Earl GRANVILLE desired to ask a question with reference to the slave-trade in the south-east of Africa. The Sultan of Zanzibar had at first required some pressure to induce him to agree to a treaty for its suppression; but it was understood that when he had agreed to enter into a treaty, he had not only fulfilled its conditions to the letter, but had even gone beyond them. It would give satisfaction to this country if the Government could give some assurance that this was really the case.

"The Marquis of SALISBURY said there could be no doubt that the persuasion which had been brought to bear upon the Sultan of Zanzibar in this matter was one of the most successful operations on record. His conversion had been complete. He had given us the most cordial co-operation in the suppression of the slave-trade, which we had acknowledged on several occasions. Our acknowledgments had recently taken the substantial form of a present of a considerable number of *Enfield rifles*. He merely referred to this as showing that we were not insensible to the valuable assistance we had received from the Sultan. If we succeeded in destroying the slave-trade it would no doubt be mainly due to his co-operation."

NORTH-WEST AFRICA.

A LETTER has been received from our friend Donald Mackenzie, dated 14th July, 1879, in which he states that he has succeeded in obtaining safe anchorage for his brig at Cape Juby, in twelve feet water at low tide, to the great delight of the Moors, who have arrived in large numbers with produce for sale. The Spanish press are opposing him as usual, but he is sanguine of complete success, and hopes to return to England in a few weeks.

THIRTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF
THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY
BY FRANCE.

A BANQUET in commemoration of this great event was held in Paris on the 18th of May last, under the presidency of M. Victor Hugo. It was very largely attended, and the proceedings were of a specially interesting character. Amongst the distinguished guests were representatives from the islands of Porto Rico and San Domingo, in which places all the horrors of slavery were formerly so fearfully enacted. The venerable Victor Schœlcher, the father of emancipation in France, sat at the President's right hand, and next to him was Emmanuel Arago; whilst Crémieux, sole survivor of the Provisional Government of 1848, and many others well known in the cause of abolition, were on either side of the banquetting table. There were no representatives from the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society present; but this was not from lack of sympathy, nor from want of a courteous invitation. Our friend and honorary secretary, Joseph Cooper, forwarded a letter couched in the most friendly and cordial terms to one of the Committee, in which he regretted that physical infirmities prevented his assisting personally at this great anniversary celebration; whilst his colleague, Edmund Sturge, was equally sorry that he could not be present on this momentous occasion.

The proceedings were of a highly interesting character, but, owing to lack of space, we can do little more than refer to the touching incident when M. Gerville-Réache, addressing himself to Victor Schœlcher, said to him, "Vous avez vaincu la servitude;" upon which the venerable Liberator quickly turned to Emmanuel Arago, and, taking his hand, cried out with warmth, "N'oubliez pas le Père de cet homme."

In proposing M. Schœlcher's health, the Procureur-General of Martinique spoke of him as "one of those who formed the Pleiades of illustrious men who at various times and in different countries have stamped their names upon that glorious act, the Abolition of Slavery. But," added the speaker, "it remains for us to continue this great work; it is for us to carry on to its completion the idea of emancipation, by causing it to produce all the results of which it contains the germ. What was said by the poet Lucretius of the ancient runners who snatched the flaming torch from those whom they passed in the race, in order to light up their own path, may equally be said of this generation of men; for we must take this civilising torch of freedom from the hands of those who have borne it, and who have been our fore-runners in the race, and we must carry it onward until concord and universal sympathy prevail between man and man, irrespective of race or colour."

As an appropriate corollary to this slight sketch of the Emancipation Banquet, we annex a paragraph from the *Daily News*, of 28th July, giving a report of a lecture by Victor Schœlcher, and a handsome allusion by another speaker to the services of the venerable lecturer in the cause of freedom:—

"Senator Schœlcher gave an interesting lecture to-day at the Théâtre des Folies Bergères, for the benefit of a subscription to erect a monument to Toussaint L'Ouverture, whose ashes, probably not in a literal sense, are claimed to be under the guardianship of M. Gragnon Lacoste, a member of the Bordeaux Academy. M. Legouvé, of the Institute, presided. On the platform were Senators Peyrat and Testelin, and Deputies Clemenceau, Rouvier, Barodet, and Greppo. A telegram was read from M. Louis Blanc deeply regretting inability to attend. Several coloured men were among the audience. The lecturer's sketch of the marvellous career of the great chief of the blacks, of whom Lamartine said, 'This man was a nation,' was frequently interrupted by applause. The abilities of Toussaint as a general, unparalleled in the history of the negro race, unless we accept by the letter the story of Othello, were graphically described; the treachery of the Bonapartist General Lefevre, who, after a proclamation promising confirmation to San Domingo of the liberties they had conquered, waged immediate war; the gallantry of Christo-

phe, one of Toussaint's lieutenants, who, like another Rostopchin, burned his capital in face of the French invader, and set fire to his own house for an example; the disgraceful capture of Toussaint, in breach of the stipulations of the treaty of peace, and his slow death in a fortress of the Jura, from cold and privations—which M. Schœlcher imputes to Bonaparte as a worse assassination than that of the Duc D'Enghien—were forcibly dwelt upon.

"After the lecture, M. Legouvé, who is an admirable speaker, craved leave to say a few supplementary words which he thought essential. M. Schœlcher had told how slavery was abolished in the French colonies in 1794 and revived in 1802, but he had omitted to say that it was definitively suppressed by the Revolution of 1848. Then, with eloquence and humour, he told the story of a young man who, going to the colonies for commercial purposes, became so impressed with the horrors of slavery that he devoted himself to collect information about it for the mother country, studied its working in the West Indies and America, and passed much time in the hotbed of the slave-trade in tropical Africa. Coming home as the Revolution of 1848 broke out, this young man was declared by Lamartine to have rendered services to humanity which God alone could requite. He became Under Secretary of State to Arago, and Minister of Marine, and with his own hand drew the short, glorious Bill declaring slavery abolished in all the French possessions. That young man was before them. He was Victor Schœlcher. (Immense applause.) One word more. They might not all know that the original name of the great negro whom they were there to celebrate was simply Toussaint. The name of L'Ouverture was added by his faithful and admiring troops on account of his wonderful capacity for opening enemies' fortresses, and ultimately the doors of liberty to his race. In like manner, M. Schœlcher had, in the course of his great life, battered down many doors of vice and misery; and he proposed that the meeting should break up by acclaiming him as Schœlcher L'Ouverture." (Laughter and enthusiastic assent.)

ALLEGED KIDNAPPING OF COOLIES IN THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

IN reply to a letter on this subject we are glad to have received from the Foreign Office a clear and distinct statement that no

such kidnapping is known to exist. The subjoined letter from the Governor of the Straits Settlements states that very strict regulations exist with regard to the importation both of coolies and Chinese labourers.

45, Stanhope Gardens, South Kensington,
May 7th, 1879.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, forwarding to me, by direction of the Secretary of State, an extract from a letter received by the Anti-Slavery Society from one of their correspondents, drawing attention to the alleged kidnapping of coolies in the Straits for the Dutch Colonies.

2. In reply, I have the honour to report that the Straits Government has recently passed two Ordinances, Nos. 2 and 3 of 1877; one for the protection of Chinese immigrants on their arrival in the Straits, and the other for the prevention of crimping, applicable to all labourers.

3. I believe that these Ordinances have been successfully worked through the agency of the Chinese Protectors' Department, and that the abuses which were said formerly to exist have disappeared.

4. There must be some misunderstanding on the part of the writer of the letter from the Hague, when he says that the coolies, instead of being landed at Singapore, are transported by the treacherous captains to Penang.

5. Vessels arriving in the Straits with coolies from China touch at Singapore, where all the coolies desirous of landing are landed under the inspection of the Chinese Protector, and those intended for Penang are then carried on to that port, either in the same, or sometimes in another vessel, according to circumstances. Penang is one of the Straits Ports, and has the same machinery for the protection of the coolies as at Singapore; and neither from Singapore nor Penang can any coolies be sent off without their full consent, and they are all fully informed before being sent off as to the nature and particulars of the engagements into which they enter.

As it is necessary to pay the passage-money of the coolies on arrival, money must pass; but it is exaggeration to say that coolies are sold. They receive an advance from the intending employer, which advance is expended partly in paying the passage-money from China, and partly in purchasing necessities for the coolies, and the advance is afterwards repaid by the

coolies, who submit to a certain stipulated deduction from their monthly wages till the amount advanced is paid.

6. As to so much of the letter as relates to what takes place in Sumatra, the matter is within the cognizance of the Netherlands Authorities exclusively; but I may, perhaps, be permitted to doubt the truth of the allegations made. Indeed, planters engaged in the Dutch possessions in Sumatra complain of the strictness of the Dutch Authorities as to the requirements they exact for the protection of the coolies. However this may be, the matter in Sumatra rests with the Netherlands Authorities.

7. In so far as the Straits Settlements Authorities are concerned, I think a perusal of the two Ordinances above referred to, and the chapters of the Indian Penal Code on kidnapping and slavery, will show that the Straits Legislature has done everything necessary for the protection of the coolies; and I am certainly under the impression that those have been efficiently worked by the Chinese Protectors' Department, and whatever grounds there might have been for complaint on this head in the Straits two or three years ago, matters at present are in a satisfactory state, and all classes of coolies are efficiently protected.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) WILLIAM C. F. ROBINSON.

*The Under Secretary of State,
Colonial Office.*

DEPLORABLE CONDITION OF INDIAN COOLIES IN FRENCH GUIANA.

(Copy of Letter dated June 20th, 1879.)

Fristoille Gardens, Shepherd's Bush.

EDMUND STURGE, Esq.

DEAR SIR,—Herewith I beg to bring before your notice the wretched condition of the coolies remaining in French Guiana. The importation into that country of these people, as you will be aware, has been stopped, owing, I believe, to the representations of our Consul at Cayenne.

Many of the poor creatures actually died within a short time after landing from the long sea-voyage, little attention being paid to their wretched condition; thus, without proper care to restore health, and even without rest, the greater proportion were despatched into the interior to the mines and plantations. I can assure you that of the many hundreds of these poor wretches,

who were sent into the deadly mining concessions, the greater number perished in a very short time, being utterly unfitted to battle with the deadly climate, and to even exist under the dreadful hardships to which they were subjected.

Passing into the interior I was deeply pained with the condition of the remaining few who were still alive. In appearance they were no better than many of the same races who suffered during the late famine in India, although in a land of plenty; and I am convinced that unless measures are taken to remove the few remaining numbers from the country, in a short time they will have perished.

I have seen little places cleared in the "forests," where coolies had been sent only a few months previously, and which were covered with their graves.

The reason of this wretchedness may be found in the unhealthiness of the climate, the decrease in temperature from the average Indian heat, the cold and damp felt by them, and the indifference with which they are treated by the French colonists, who seem to pay but little attention to the coolies, and consider them more as animals of burden. The unsuitability of the food also causes much suffering and mortality, being altogether different from that to which they have been accustomed.

The poor coolie is a harmless, uncomplaining being, who will gradually pine and die away amidst these pestilential wilds without murmur or complaint, as I have often seen them do.

I may mention that the coolies only receive a fractional part of the wage given to the negro for daily labour—I believe only about one-third.

In conclusion, I can only add that through all my travelling in different parts of the world I have never felt such deep pain as in witnessing the misery of these poor creatures.

Believe me, dear Sir,

To be yours faithfully,

(Signed) OLIVER PEGLER,

*Associate of the Royal School of Mines,
Consulting Mining Engineer and
Metallurgist.*

A copy of this letter was forwarded by the Society to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to

which the subjoined reply has been received. We are still of opinion that our correspondent, who visited the interior of the country in the course of his professional duties, has had opportunities of observing the real condition of the poor coolies employed at the gold mines that our Consular officials do not enjoy. We await with much interest the further information promised us by Lord Salisbury, but we fear that the accounts given by our correspondent are only too true.

"Foreign Office, July 26th, 1879.

"Sir,—I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, inclosing a copy of a letter addressed to the Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society by one of their number on the subject of the condition of the British Indian coolies in French Guiana; and I am, in reply, to state that the reports hitherto received by Her Majesty's Government do not bear out the unfavourable report contained in your correspondent's letter. Lord Salisbury has, however, taken steps to obtain accurate information on the condition and treatment of the coolies in question, with the view to remedies being applied should the statements contained in your correspondent's letter be verified.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient humble Servant,

"JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

"The Secretary, Anti-Slavery Society."

PROPOSED IMMIGRATION

OF

CHINESE COOLIES INTO BRAZIL.

THE following letter has been addressed by the Society to the Chinese Minister on this subject:—

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE MARQUIS TSENG,
ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTER
PLENIPOTENTIARY FROM THE
COURT OF PEKIN TO THE COURT OF
ST. JAMES.

May it please your Excellency,—The Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society beg to remind your Excellency that, on the 30th of April last, they had the honour to introduce to your Excellency a large and influential deputation, composed of many members of the British

Parliament, and of gentlemen favourable to the objects advocated by this Society.

The Deputation desired to call your Excellency's attention to the miserable, and virtually enslaved, condition of the Chinese coolies in the Island of Cuba, and to the necessity of very materially modifying the late Treaty made between China and Spain; but, above all, to the importance of discouraging all emigration from China to Cuba so long as the institution of slavery is maintained in that Island.

The Committee now beg to inform your Excellency of the fact that Envoys from Brazil are now on their way to England with a view to negotiate with your Excellency, and, through your Excellency, with the Chinese Government, a Convention for the importation of Chinese into the Brazils.

The Committee feel it to be their duty to represent to your Excellency that Brazil is unfortunately a country holding more than a million of slaves; and they would, therefore, earnestly impress upon your Excellency the fact, which has been confirmed, not only by history but by their own experience, viz., that in any country in which slavery exists neither Treaty provisions nor laws will prevent imported and contracted labour from becoming a virtual slavery; and therefore any Treaty between China and Brazil for the importation of Chinese must infallibly result in the virtual enslavement of the unfortunate immigrant.

We are, with much respect,

JOSEPH COOPER, } *Hon.*

EDMUND STURGE, } *Secs.*

CHARLES H. ALLEN, *Secretary.*

ALLEGED FRAUD UPON COOLIES IN JAMAICA.

WE have received from Mr. Consul Gall a detailed report of a series of gross and cruel frauds alleged to have been committed upon the poor hard-working coolies in Jamaica. We are glad to notice that Her Majesty's Government have been questioned upon this subject, and we gladly reprint a short and incisive leader from the *Leeds Mercury*, in which justice is demanded for the poor defrauded foreigners. We trust the matter will not be allowed to drop.

"Sir M. Hicks-Beach pleaded ignorance on Monday, in replying to the question of

Mr. Macdonald as to the alleged fraud practised upon the coolies at Charleston, Kingston, by the Immigration Agent in Jamaica. If the Secretary of the Colonies is ignorant of the facts, we presume he is the only member connected with the Department whose attention has not been called to the complaint officially made to the Governor of Jamaica on the subject. Indeed, the facts are notorious, whether or not the Government can in any sense be held responsible for the wrong inflicted upon the victims by their agent. Mr. Gall, the Consul at Jamaica for Chili and Ecuador, vouches for the truth of a statement which he publishes under his signature; and certainly no more humiliating charge against English officials has ever been made in connection with the system of coolie labour in the colonies of the Crown. It appears that in the parishes of Saint Catherine, Vere, and Clarendon, the coolies, during their indentured service, placed their savings in the hands of the local Government officer of the district, and received from him promissory notes. The sums thus saved amounted in some instances to £200, and the notes were made payable on demand or were left undated, but none of them were stamped. Instead of reporting these savings to the head of the Department, or investing them in the Savings Bank, the agent applied the money to his own use. A shopkeeper who had received money in the same way suddenly became bankrupt, and the coolies, becoming alarmed, pressed the agent, who raised money on a second mortgage of property professedly belonging to his son, and paid them £1,000, stating that this was all he had of theirs. The newspapers declare that this was not correct. In the meanwhile, the agent, as far as possible, called in the promissory notes, and exchanged them for others in the name of his son, but still unstamped. Unfortunately, the Governor had been the guest of the agent, and when the outcry was made the former declined to interfere, on the ground that he had no control over the son of the agent. The time came for the coolies to return, but their savings were gone; and though in the opinion of the Chief Justice they ought to be paid, the debt remains unredeemed. The agent has been allowed to resign. That is all. We can only hope that as soon as Sir M. Hicks-

Beach has acquainted himself with the facts, he will take measures to atone to these poor coolies for the scandalous wrong done to them."

THE SLAVE-TRADE IN THE PORTUGUESE SETTLEMENTS IN AFRICA.

MR. BOURKE, answering Mr. Anderson, stated that in a new treaty with Portugal to obtain for British commerce the use of the harbour at Delagoa Bay there were clauses for the better suppression of the slave-trade; but the treaty had not yet been ratified, and must be sent to the colonies before it could be presented to Parliament.

PROPOSED SHIP-CANAL THROUGH THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.

As is now well known, an International Commission has lately held its session at Paris to decide the best route for a ship-canal through the Isthmus of Panama.

Of this Commission M. de Lesseps, the venerable founder and successful engineer of the marvellous Suez Canal, was the president, and he is now the recognised head of the Company which is forming in France for the carrying out of this great object.

The route chosen by the Commission for the canal is the short one, near the present Panama railway; and it is to be noted as a singular fact, that all the routes so ably and carefully surveyed by the American Government have been rejected, and the choice has fallen upon one that has hitherto been pronounced by the first authorities to be impracticable.

It is true that it has the advantage of shortness, and of a lower range of hills than in most other parts, but the soil is swampy and oozy; there is a want of regular supplies of water, although floods are common enough, and the climate is certainly dangerous to the white man. It is on this question of climate, and the consequent one of labour, that the attention of this Society must be turned to the works in connection with this gigantic undertaking.

If it be true, as reported, that M. de Lesseps has applied to the Emperor of Brazil for one thousand black labourers, and that they are to commence work on the

1st of January 1880, it is time that some steps were taken to urge upon the French Government the necessity of sternly putting down all attempts to procure *forced labour* of any kind.

If negroes are brought from Brazil, and are turned out in the forests and swamps of the Isthmus of Panama to perform the severe work of digging a canal under a tropical sun, there is great danger that their state will be one of real and bitter SLAVERY, under whatever specious name the contract may be clothed.

We have ourselves travelled on the railway which was laid down across the Isthmus at the estimated cost of a *human life per foot*, and although the traveller is charmed and delighted at the loveliness and magnificence of the wonderful tropical forest scenery through which he now passes so easily, yet he has various reminders given him that he had better not linger in this earthly *Paradise* (one of the stations on the railway is actually named Paraiso, owing to the beauty of its situation).

But the beauty is deceptive, as thousands of the poor labourers on the railway found to their cost; and it is the duty of the Governments of England, America, and France, to see that all labour on the canal shall be free, and well paid, and that proper means shall be taken to provide for all sick and disabled workmen.

Meanwhile the American Government does not appear to relish the idea of the great canal being the work of France alone, as the following extract of a letter from the correspondent of the *Times* in Philadelphia, in July, will show. We shall return to this subject in our next; but we earnestly trust the Americans will not bestow all their energy to upholding the national flag in this Isthmus, but will take proper steps to prevent every species of *forced labour* in the construction of the canal, in order that the fearful loss of life inflicted on the Fellaheen of Egypt in the making of the Suez Canal may be avoided.

"Independently of the political contest in Congress, the most important proceeding of the session, in the popular view, was the introduction, in the closing days, of Senator Burnside's resolution re-affirming the Monroe doctrine of American control on the American continent, in reference to the proposed Darien Canal. The fact that the resolution was not acted

upon is of no significance. It was intended simply as a notification, and the Foreign Committee will hereafter report it if the further development of the non-American portion of M. de Lesseps's scheme should make such a course necessary. Such a resolution would command a practically unanimous support whenever put to the vote. The Monroe doctrine is a principle held as above all parties in the United States, a cardinal doctrine of the national faith. Foreign control of a Darien Canal is as repugnant to American feelings as is foreign interference with the road to India to an Englishman. There is a strong feeling developing on this subject, and the utterances of M. de Lesseps and his friends in the Parisian newspapers do not allay it, though they are intended to do so, and are faithfully telegraphed across the ocean. The canal project has begun wrong, and it will not make any progress until the initial errors are corrected. The selection of the route—which ignored all the practical surveys made by Americans—offends our people. The proposal to guarantee the neutrality of the canal is not enough. The Americans want the construction made by an American route and under American auspices. The incorporation of the Company that has charge of the work must be American, to give the necessary national control, and the assistance of all eminent French or other engineers will be warmly welcomed. If M. de Lesseps concedes these things and undoes the initial errors, he may succeed; but I cannot imagine the shrewd capitalists of the Old World investing in his enterprise, under the present unfavourable auspices to the enormous extent necessary for its completion. The enterprise is looked upon in this country as practically a foreign interference in American affairs, as marked as the ill-starred foreign occupation of Mexico; and the United States, having no rebellion on its hands, can give, and will give, undivided attention to the subject. Yet the Americans want the canal constructed, provided it is done in their own way, and already there are predictions that M. de Lesseps will abandon the peculiarly French auspices under which he is now working, change his route to an American one, and come over here and get an American charter for his company. I sincerely hope he may. His great genius and limitless energy are the motive power needed for a work of this kind."

Obituary.

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON.

THE Committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society place this day upon their records a notice of the death of their lamented friend and fellow-labourer

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON,

which has already been briefly chronicled in the last issue of the Society's Journal.

It was in the year 1833 that the Anti-Slavery Society first extended its welcome to William Lloyd Garrison, when he for the first time paid a visit to this country. He had then left the shores of the United States as the recognised leader of the forlorn hope of a cause then passing through the fiery ordeal of persecution and reproach.

He arrived here at the moment when the full tide of anti-slavery feeling in England was bearing down alike the opposition of the West Indian slave-owners and the reluctance of the Government of this country.

When he visited England for the last time, two years ago, this Society once more gladly welcomed him at a meeting at which many of their friends were able to be present. It was then their privilege to hear him recount the history of that great anti-slavery triumph in the United States of America which had crowned the long and laborious work of himself and his coadjutors.

In recording the great loss to the cause of freedom which this Society and the emancipated people of America have alike to deplore, this Committee feel no little satisfaction in recurring to this last occasion of meeting with their friend, as affording a landmark in the history of the great cause which they all had at heart, and as an occasion for them to thank God and take courage, in view of the formidable work still before them, in the constant and determined assault upon the vast empire of slavery and the slave-trade which still exists in Cuba and in the Eastern world.

London, July 31st, 1879.

We have great pleasure in reprinting the following beautiful lines from the American poet Whittier, written expressly to commemorate the death of this eminent Abolitionist, in which he so eloquently describes the high and holy path of active

service on behalf of right, and in redress of wrong, still open to those who have gone from a life of activity and love on earth to one of still greater activity and love in heaven: "Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

The storm and peril overpast,
The hounding hatred shamed and still;
Go, soul of freedom! take at last
The place which thou alone canst fill.

Confirm the lesson taught of old,
Life saved for self is lost, while they
Who lose it in His service hold
The lease of God's eternal day.

Not for thyself, but for the slave
Thy words of thunder shook the world;
No selfish griefs or hatred gave
The strength wherewith thy bolts were
hurled.

From lips that Sinai's trumpet blew
We heard a tender undersong;
Thy very wrath from pity grew,
From love of man thy hate of wrong.

Now past and present are as one;
Thy life below is life above;
Thy mortal years have but begun
The immortality of love.

Not for a soul like thine the calm
Of selfish ease and joys of sense;
But duty, more than crown or palm,
Its own exceeding recompense.

Go up and on! thy day well done,
Its morning promise well fulfilled,
Arise to triumphs yet unwon,
To holier tasks that God has willed.

Go leave behind thee all that mars
The work below of man for man;
With the white legions of the stars
Do service such as angels can.

Wherever wrong shall right deny,
Or suffering spirits urge their plea,
Be thine a voice to smite the lie,
A hand to set the captive free!

THE LATE J. M. PHILLIPPO, OF JAMAICA.

THE passing away of such a man as the late James Mursell Phillippo, Baptist Missionary of Spanish Town, Jamaica, claims a more than common tribute of sympathy and honourable recognition.

His fifty-five years of devoted service, the work he accomplished, and the gifts and graces of his character, entitle him to a high place amongst those who have so devotedly laboured in the mission-field.

An Oxfordshire man, born in 1799, he

early devoted himself to the Gospel ministry. His course as a student was marked by high qualities and aptitudes, and while fitted by his attainments for any service, he accepted the arduous one of carrying the message of the love of Christ to the down-trodden slaves of Jamaica.

In 1824 he took up his abode at Spanish Town, the capital of the island, in which town, and in a wide district adjacent, he laboured to the end of his life. He was not only an excellent minister and pastor, but a thorough man of business. The building of chapels, the organisation of schools, the gaining an influence for good, the maintaining a high tone of Christian uprightness whilst endeavouring to raise the deplorably low moral tone of surrounding society, these were the occupations of his life.

If his work in any one of several departments were fully detailed it would seem more than sufficient to fill up the whole of his long and busy life.

He did not despise the day of small things. He began a school for the black people in his own house, and this effort grew, under Divine Providence, until his "Metropolitan Schools" became the pride of the Capital, and were worthy, both in appearance and efficiency, of the name he gave them.

Our Baptist friends own no bishops, but J. M. Phillippo was a bishop in the highest and best sense. Residing at the seat of Government, he ably represented the Society to which he belonged, and secured for it and for himself the respect of successive Governors and of others in high authority.

We need not dwell on the sorrows and discouragements that chequered the course of our lamented friend. Perhaps the very qualities of indomitable energy and firmness that enabled him to accomplish so much occasionally raised up opposition, which might perhaps, without compromise of principle, have been avoided.

Anything of this nature was, however, exceptional. He enjoyed very largely and to the end the love and confidence of his brethren, and the deep respect of all who knew him, including many who had little sympathy with his religious and philanthropic labours.

Among the few works he had time to write were "JAMAICA; its past and present state," a singularly interesting and graphic book, and "The UNITED STATES and CUBA."

Mrs. Phillippo, his like-minded helpmeet from their very first union, pre-deceased him by only two or three years. The eldest son, Dr. J. C. Phillippo, is a medical man of the first eminence in Jamaica, and the second, Mr. George Phillippo, has filled several high legal appointments, and is, we believe, at present Attorney-General at Hong Kong.

The name of J. M. Phillippo ought never to fade from the recollection of the people of Jamaica. His sympathies with the anti-slavery cause were deep and untiring, and when the knell of slavery tolled he was one of the first to encourage the formation of free villages, for the welfare of the emancipated people was ever the object of his anxious thoughts and unwearied efforts.

This brief and inadequate tribute is penned by one who, though not a Baptist, has enjoyed many much-prized opportunities of becoming personally acquainted with the work of his lamented friend, of seeing the position he filled, and the large influence that gathered around him, and which he employed with a single eye to the good of his fellow-men and the glory of his Lord and Master.

THE LATE MR. GEORGE FIFE ANGAS.

THE death of this old and much respected colonist in South Australia, in May last, at the ripe age of ninety years, deserves a passing record in these columns; for although Mr. Angas was not, strictly speaking, connected with the Anti-Slavery Society, he was associated with Wilberforce, Fowell Buxton, and other anti-Slavery champions in procuring the liberation of the down-trodden Indians of the Mesquito Coast. Early in life he entered largely into the business of importing mahogany, dyewoods, and other products from Honduras, and his sympathies were soon actively engaged on behalf of the wild and ignorant natives of that country. In 1819, he sent out a missionary, at his own expense, to work amongst these barbarous tribes, and in 1824 a place of Christian worship was erected through Mr. Angas's aid at Belize, the capital of Honduras. A full account of his generous efforts in the cause of the helpless natives, and an acknowledgment of the good resulting therefrom, is contained

in a work written by the Rev. F. Crowe, describing the history of Missions in Central America, and we cannot help expressing our belief that the world would have been vastly benefited if all our pioneers of commerce in remote regions of the earth had been like the object of this notice—free of hand and loving of heart.

The future successes of Mr. Angas in England and in Australia scarcely come within the scope of this journal; but we may remark, in passing, that he was a bold and successful trader, and a true Christian gentleman. He was long a member of the British and Foreign School Society, and the founder, together with Sir John Pirie, of the British and Foreign Sailors' Society. He may almost be said to have founded the colony of South Australia, though he did not settle there himself until the year 1851. One of his first acts on being returned to the Parliament in that colony was to oppose the grant of any State-aid to any religion whatever, and in a short time this grant was finally abolished, and all religious bodies now stand upon the same footing in South Australia. He became a leading man in the country of his adoption, and one of its most honoured and wealthy citizens. At home he is remembered in the commercial world as being one of the chief founders of the Bank of South Australia—the "Union Bank of Australia," of which he was the first chairman—and by his assisting Mr. Joplin, the founder of joint-stock banks in England, to establish the National Provincial Bank of England, of which flourishing institution he was long a director. He was also mainly instrumental in prevailing upon our Government to annex the New Zealand group of Islands, which only narrowly escaped being placed under the flag of France. We may truly say that George Fife Angas was a benefactor, not only to his native country, but to various branches of the great human family in different parts of the world.

THE LATE EDWARD BACKHOUSE.

Just as the last number of the *Reporter* was in the press we received intelligence of the unexpected loss of one of the most liberal supporters of the anti-slavery cause.

Edward Backhouse, Esq., of Ashburn,

near Sunderland, who was residing for a short time at Hastings for the benefit of his health, peacefully passed away on the 22nd of May last, notwithstanding all the efforts of the highest medical skill.

Although it is as a friend and supporter of the cause of the slave and of Africa that we have to record in his decease an irreparable loss, yet it may truly be said that there is scarcely any branch of Christian philanthropy which did not receive his cordial sympathy and his liberal aid.

He was a minister of the Gospel in the Society of Friends, and exhibited in a remarkable degree the beauty and excellence of the Christian character.

May the Lord in His continued goodness raise up more such labourers in the great harvest-field!

DEATH OF MR. KEITH JOHNSTON.

WE deeply regret to have to insert the subjoined letter to the Editor of the *Times*, from the Vice-President of the Royal Geographical Society, announcing the death of the promising young explorer sent out by that Society to open up the still unknown country in the great Lake districts:—

"SIR,—All who have taken any interest in African exploration, and the subscribers to the African Exploration Fund of the Geographical Society more especially, will learn with deep regret the receipt of a telegram from Dr. Kirk announcing the death of Mr. Keith Johnston, who died of dysentery, on the 28th of June, at Berobero. Berobero is about 130 miles in the interior from Dar-es-Salaam, from which Mr. Keith Johnston started on his mission of exploration to the head of Lake Nyassa, on the 14th of May last; and, as Dr. Kirk reported, under the most favourable combination of circumstances 'possible.' He was selected by the committee of the African Exploration Fund, after long deliberation, as eminently fitted to carry to a successful issue his important mission, if life were spared him. With him was associated as a scientific assistant, Mr. Thomson, who now goes on alone, and we must hope with better fortune. The chief object of all African exploration at this time is to connect the great chain of inland lakes, running longitudinally from Lakes Albert and Victoria in the north, down to Nyassa and the Zambesi in the south, with the coast east or west, by some practicable road. The part of this task chosen by the committee of the Royal Geographical Society was to open a line across the hitherto unexplored country lying between Dar-es-Salaam, on the coast opposite to Zanzibar, and the northern end of Lake Nyassa. If circumstances had favoured, it was contemplated

that Mr. Johnston should have endeavoured to continue his exploration through the equally unknown country dividing Lake Nyassa from Tanganyika, and thus bring in communication these two great inland seas and the eastern coast. This double object we can scarcely hope now to accomplish with diminished strength. It may safely be said that of all the victims insatiable Africa has claimed in the cause of science and civilisation, this is one of the noblest; for Keith Johnstone was a young man of exceptionally high attainments, and, enthusiastic for the work, had qualified himself for the mission in which he has fallen a sacrifice by the studies and training of a lifetime.

"It will be satisfactory to the subscribers to the fund that, grievous as is the loss sustained, the expedition is not broken up, but is continuing its march under Mr. Thomson, the scientific assistant of the dead leader.

"I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

"RUTHERFORD ALCOCK.

"14, Great Queen St., Westminster, Aug. 5."

SECRETARY.

IN our number of November, 1878, it was stated that the Rev. A. Buzacott had been compelled by ill-health to relinquish his duties as Secretary to this Society. For many months the Honorary Secretaries have ably performed much of the work that usually pertains to the Secretary's office; but the Committee have now felt it necessary to relieve these gentlemen of those extra

duties they have so cheerfully undertaken, and they now beg to announce to their friends and subscribers that they have appointed CHARLES H. ALLEN, F.R.G.S., as their SECRETARY.

They take this opportunity of impressing upon all their friends the necessity of obtaining further donations and subscriptions to enable the Society to carry on its work with the utmost efficiency.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST ISSUE.

A Friend, by C. H. Allen ... (don.)	2	2	0
Alexander, Miss S. A., Reigate, (sub.)	1	1	0
Allen, Frederic, London ... "	0	10	6
Brightwen, G. H. ... "	1	1	0
Burt, J., York ... "	1	1	0
Buxton, T., Leeds ... "	2	2	0
Compton, Theodore Winscombe ... "	0	10	6
Farler, Rev. J. P. (B.A.) ... "	0	4	0
Fry, Mr. Justice, Highgate ... "	1	1	0
Gasparin, Madame la Comtesse de, Geneva (don.)	4	0	0
Harwood, Knight & Allen (sub.)	2	2	0
Jukes, Mrs., Willesden ... "	0	10	6
Partington, C. J., London ... "	0	10	6
Tyndall, Mrs., Edgbaston ... "	0	10	6
Legacy of the late Robert Alsop	45	0	0

SUGGESTED FORM OF BEQUEST TO THE SOCIETY.

"I give to the TREASURER for the time being, or to the person for the time being acting as such, of THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY, and whose receipt I direct shall be a sufficient discharge for the same, the sum of £ sterling [free of Legacy Duty], to be applied for the general purposes of the said Society, to be fully paid out of such part of my personal estate as is legally applicable to such purpose."

Subscribers for the "REPORTER" should kindly send Post-Office Orders to CHARLES H. ALLEN, payable at the General Post Office, E.C.

DONATIONS and SUBSCRIPTIONS for THE ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY will be received by the Treasurer, by the Hon. Secretaries, and by the Secretary,

CHARLES H. ALLEN,

27, New Broad Street, E.C.

LONDON: Printed by BARRETT, SONS & Co., Crown Works, 21, Seething Lane, and published by ELLIOT STOCK, 62, Paternoster Row, London, and at the Offices of the Society, 27, New Broad Street, in the Parish of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, in the City of London.—AUGUST, 1879.